

A  
TREATISE  
ON THE  
PRACTICE  
OF  
FIELD ARTILLERY.

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COMPOSED FOR THE USE  
OF THE  
R. E. V. ARTILLERY.

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EDINBURGH:  
PRINTED IN THE YEAR  
1799.

THE A. J. S. R.

FRANCIS

FIELD M. S. R.

W. J. S. R.



EDWARD

THE A. J. S. R.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

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THE contents of the following Sheets were written by Major MACDONALD, at the request of the Gentlemen of the R. E. V. Artillery Company, and are now printed for their use. Major MACDONALD, when he commanded the Company, paid much attention to the Minutiæ of the Dragrope Exercise; and having, before he exchanged that command for his Majority in the Regiment of the Isles, nearly completed the Manuscript of this Pamphlet, it has been since finished, and presented by him to the Company.

THE chief object in view is to have the detail of the Dragrope Exercise made familiar to every individual, even to those whose particular avocations prevent a very regular attendance at Drill; but to these details there has also been added some Miscellaneous Matter, which, it is hoped, may, in some measure, induce the Gentlemen of the Company to bestow some study on the Theory as well as the Practice of Gunnery.

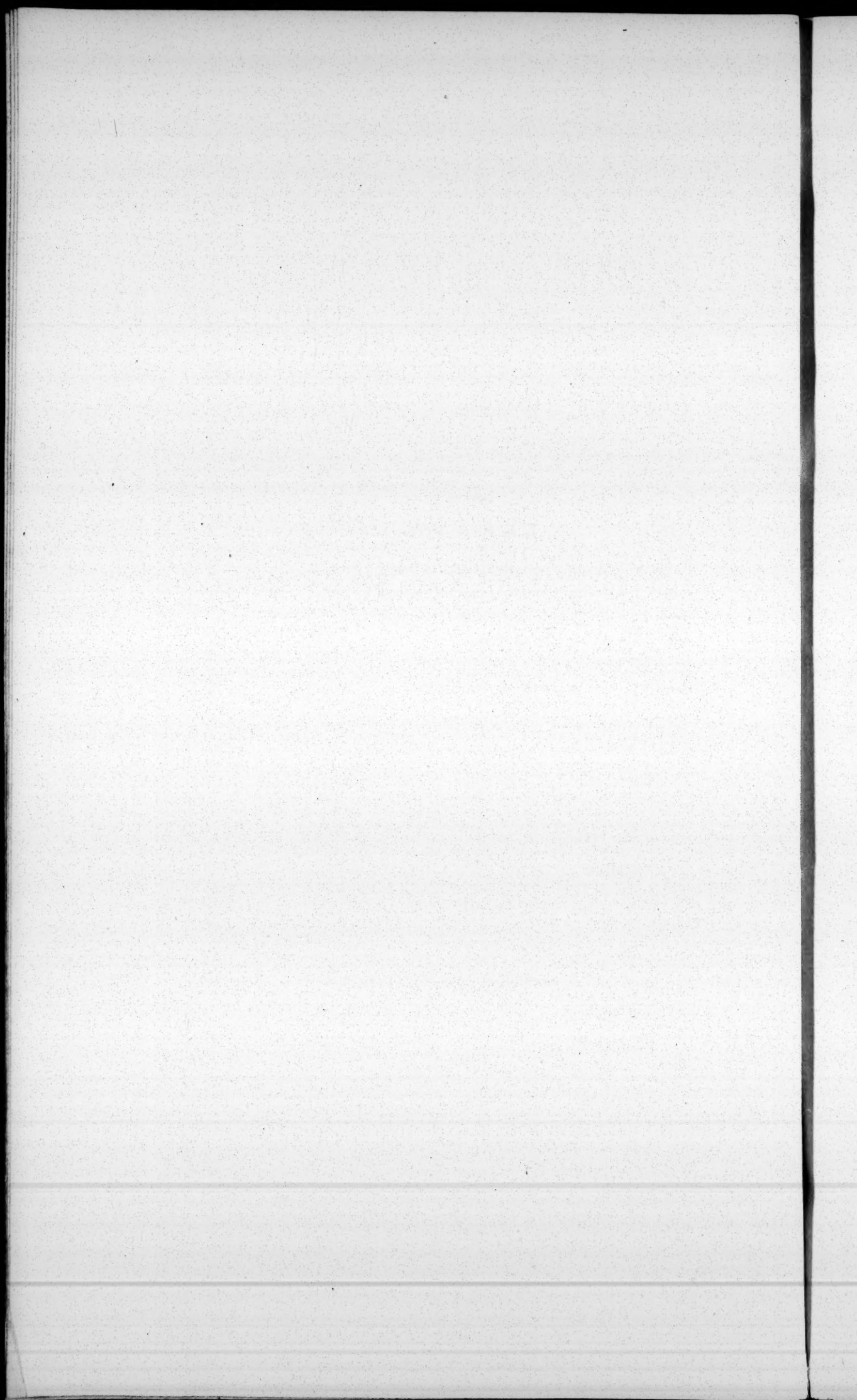
# ADVERTISING

The purpose of this paper is to provide a medium for the publication of advertisements. The advertisements are to be published in the following order: first, the advertisements of the United States Government; second, the advertisements of the State of New York; third, the advertisements of the County of New York; and fourth, the advertisements of the City of New York. The advertisements of the United States Government are to be published in the first column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the State of New York are to be published in the second column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the County of New York are to be published in the third column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the City of New York are to be published in the fourth column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the United States Government are to be published in the first column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the State of New York are to be published in the second column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the County of New York are to be published in the third column of the first page of the paper. The advertisements of the City of New York are to be published in the fourth column of the first page of the paper.

### ERRATA.

- Page 7 line 16 *for* system *read* systems  
— 7 — 23 *for* 9 fires and tubes, *read* 9 fires  
— 20 — penult. *for* follow *read* follows  
— 38 — 1 *for* of *read* off  
— 61 — 21 *for* e c *read* c  
— 83 — 8 *for* stick *read* sticks





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N. B.—As this Treatise is not intended for General Publication, a limited Number of Copies has been printed.





# THE ARTILLERY MANUAL.

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## PART I.

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See PLATE I. Fig. 1.

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DRAGROPE EXERCISE, having 21 MEN to a GUN.

THE exercise was adapted to this number, which the corps could afford each gun.

1, 2, 3,—4, 5, 6,—7, 8, 9, and 10, 11, 12, carry, each three, a dragrope. 13 loads. 14 spunges. 15 portfires. 16 serves the vent. 17 and 18 (two non-commissioned officers) steer, truck and direct. 19 carries a bucket, flow-match, and a spare portfire and portfire-stick. 20 carries the cartridges to 13 from 21, who carries a cartouch box, and attends the limber and horses.

### ORDER OF MARCH.

“Dragrope men, Right about face.” “Right and left inwards wheel.” “Front.”—16, 18, 19 and 15, 17 and 20, are arranged, at equal distances, between the head of the  
A horse

horse and the front of the dragrope men, who march in common file. 21 marches before the horse.

#### TO UNLIMBER.

21 unchains. 17 and 18 raise the trail of the carriage. 19, 20 and 21 remove the limber. 9 and 12, and 3 and 6, take off the tarpauling. 8 and 11 take off one, and 2 and 5 the other side box; place them on the limbers, and secure them there. 13, 14, 15 and 16, unlash the side arms. 1, 4, 7 and 10, get ready their dragropes, and the whole will fall into position for action, as *per* figure \*. When an attack is expected, the side arms are not lashed, and 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 21, must, with the dragrope men, be ready prepared for action. When the gun is relimbered, these different duties will be executed by the same numbers, replacing the side boxes, side arms, tarpaulings, limber chain and trail in their original position.

N. B. If the gun has its full complement of horses, the men are arranged at wide intervals.

\* No. 20, though placed in these figures behind 17 and 18, is in general, both in action position and the different movements, placed exactly opposite to 19.

#### TO ADVANCE QUICK OR SLOW FROM ACTION POSITION.

"Prepare to advance." 5 and 8 slip under the ropes, and 6 and 9 round the loop ends. 4 and 7 hook to the breast eye-bolts. 1 and 10 hook to the drag washers, while 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12, take the centre and front pins, represented by dots in the figure. "Quick (or slow) march." The whole move forward, with the left foot commencing the step. "Halt. Prepare for action." The foot raised is planted, completing its step by bringing up the other to it. 5 and 8 slip under, from the in to the out-sides of the ropes. 6 and 9 go round the loop ends.





4, 7, 1 and 10, unhook, while 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12, wheel, rapidly, to the right and left, outwards, into position for action. N. B. In going round the loop end of a rope, the front is always held to the rope and loop, and the hands change places on the rope; for instance, 6 goes round the loop end, facing to the rear. In going round, the hands approach each other, the right occupying the point of the rope originally held by the left. In this position, with the front pin in his right hand, he is, instantly, ready to wheel backwards, or rather laterally, into advancing position. Going round the loop or hook ends, precisely, is to be well attended to; the perfection of the exercise depending much on the neatness of execution of this movement. On the opposite side of the gun, the reverse of the above movement of No. 6 takes place, by 9.

#### TO RETREAT QUICK (OR SLOW) FROM ACTION POSITION.

"Prepare to retreat." The whole go to the right about. In this movement, the dragrope men raise the ropes over their heads, approach the hands to each other, and bring down the ropes with the right, where the left was situated previous to coming about. All will move rapidly to retreating position, (as *per* figure), 7 and 4, 10 and 1, hooking to the drag-washers and trail-staples. "Slow march." "Halt. Prepare for action." 4, 7, 1 and 10, unhook, and slip round the hook ends. 6, 9, 3 and 12, slip round the loop ends. 5, 8, 2 and 11, slip under the ropes, changing from out to inside, when the whole wheel, rapidly, to the right and left, outwards, into action position. When the guns are not in action retreating, at the word "Prepare to retreat," 19, 20 and 21, will move to the right and left, taking post behind 13 and 14. In firing retreating, 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, retreat the gun; and 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, retire to the



the limber. In firing advancing, 1, 2 and 3, 10, 11 and 12, will hook on to the trail to check, if necessary, while 4, 5 and 6, 7, 8 and 9, advance the gun.

(From advancing position). "Prepare to retreat." 1 and 10, 4 and 7 unhook, and flip round the hook ends. 3 and 12 go round the loop ends. 2 and 11 change from out to inside of the ropes. The whole will wheel, or rather move, rapidly, over the least possible space of ground, to the rear, 1 and 10 hooking to the trail-staples, and 4 and 7 to the drag-washers. (From retreating position). "Prepare to advance." Reverse the last movement to effect this.

#### DITCH EXERCISE.

"Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, advancing."

See plate I. fig. 2.

All being in advancing position, as *per* fig. 1. 2 and 11 flip under the ropes, and 3 and 12 round the loop ends. 1 and 10 unhook from the drag-washers, flip round the hook ends, and (assisted by 14 and 13) fasten their ropes round the naves of the wheels, the hook being in contact with, and held on the rope, by the rear pin. 7 and 4 hook to the drag-washers, 5 and 8 changing under, and 9 and 6 going round the loop ends. All being situated as *per* fig. 2. the front ropes gently lower the gun into the ditch, while the rear ones prevent, by holding on a proportioned strain check, an over rapid descent. 17 and 18 will untruck in this case. In hooking to the nave, the hook is not brought in contact with the nave at the hooking point, as the rope would coil round it in the gun's descent, and thus be shortened and rendered useless. The men are stationed on the outside of the nave ropes, to prevent being confined in their action by the checks, if on the inside; and 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and

9, are on the outside, to be out of the way of the gun, should it, by carelessness or accident, rush forward. "Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, advancing." The gun having been lowered, and the men being situated, as above, 4 and 7 unhook from the drag-washers, and hook to the breast eye-bolts. 5 and 8 slip under the ropes, and 6 and 9 round the loop ends. 1 and 10 detach their ropes from the naves. 2 and 11 slip under the ropes, and 12 and 3 round the loop ends. 1 will pass his right hand (holding his hook) under the felloe immediately below the horizontal one, will apply his hook, with the circular part uppermost, to the circumference of the wheel, and will, with his left hand, put the chain into the eye of the hook, 2 and 3, at the same time, laying the rest of the chain, and a part of the rope, in coincidence with the circumference, from the hook to the highest point of the wheel, where the tangent part of the rope commences. 10, 11 and 12, will perform the same operation on the opposite side; the contrary hands to those of No. 1, 2 and 3, discharging the similar duties. All being thus situated, No. 18. will give the word "March," and "Halt;" (when he observes the wheel ropes beginning to descend under the horizontal line), "Right shift:" on which the left and centre ropes will hold on a strain, while the right is shifted to a similar hold as the original one. When the right is refixed, No. 18. gives the word "Left shift:" on which the right and two centre ropes will sustain the gun, till the left shall be refixed, when the word "March" will be given; and this alternate operation will be repeated till the duty shall be effected. When the gun is drawn out of the ditch, 1 and 10 will unfix the hooks from the felloes of the wheels, and hook on to the drag-washers, on which, at the word "March," the gun moves on. The dotted lines on figure 2. represent the disposition of the ropes, and the arrangement of the gunners in drawing the gun out of the ditch.

"Prepare



"Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, retreating."

See plate I. fig. 3.

All being in retreating position, as *per* fig. 1. 5 and 8 slip under the ropes, and 6 and 9 round the loop ends. 4 and 7 disengage from the drag-washers, slip round the chain ends, and, assisted by 16 and 15, attach their ropes to the naves. 17 and 18 untruck, take out the traversing handspike, and retire to their respective sides, as will also 13, 14, 15, 16 and 19, to be removed from any danger from the accidental breaking loose of the gun; a precaution always to be attended to, relative to useless men about the gun, in these operations.—Thus situated, as *per* figure 3. the trail ropes draw the gun into the ditch, checked by the nave ropes.

"Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, retreating." 5 and 8 will slip under the ropes, and 6 and 9 round the loop ends. 4 and 7 will disengage from the naves, slip round the chain ends, and attach their ropes to the felloes of the wheels; as directed in drawing the gun out of the ditch, advancing. 17 and 18 will truck, and put in the traversing handspike, to facilitate this operation. The dotted lines, on fig. 3, shew 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, arranged for the last operation. Should the inclined plane, over which the gun moves, be long, the ropes will be shifted on the wheels, as before described.

In going through the manœuvres and field-evolutions with a battalion, if the ground is uneven, it will be necessary to check an over rapid progress of the gun. To effect this, in advancing, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, fall back; and, in retreating, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9; and, on the gun's attaining again to level ground, the word, "Prepare to advance," re-arranges all as before.

N. B. In



N. B. In checking, advancing, 2, 11, 1 and 10, pass under the ropes, and 3 and 12 round the loop ends. In checking, retreating, 7, 8, 4 and 5, pass under the ropes, and 9 and 6 round the loop ends. 2 and 11, 5 and 8, will raise the ropes a little high, to give 1, 10, 4 and 7, an opportunity of passing under, without being under the necessity of bending too low; and 1, 10, 4 and 7, will carry round the drag-washers, with the hands unoccupied by the pins.

It being highly probable, that the Royal Edinburgh Volunteer Artillery, sufficiently numerous to work 9 light six-pounders, would be furnished with a proper complement of guns and howitzers, the following exercise, supposing fifteen men to a gun, was formed for their use, and rendered as simple as possible. It is founded on the two leading principles from which such system of exercises are deduced. These are, "That the shortest lines should be gone over," and, "that all superfluous motion of the limbs should be avoided."

See plate I. fig. 4.

1 and 2 carry a dragrope. 4 and 5 carry a dragrope. 3, a pace of 30 inches behind 1, carries a dragrope. 6, a pace behind 4, carries a dragrope. 7 loads. 8 sponges. 9 fires and tubes. 10 serves the vent. 11, assisted by 14, steers and trucks. 12 carries a bucket, flow-match, and a spare portfire and portfire-stick. 13 carries cartridges from 14, who carries a cartouch. 15 carries a cartouch, and attends the limber, &c. 9 and 10 cover 7 and 8. 13 and 12, having their heels in a line with the rear of the trail-transom, are covered by the wheel. 1, 2, 4 and 5, stand, having elbows within two inches of each other. 14 stands a pace behind 11, and 15 (when at exercise) two paces in the rear of 14. When the gun is loaded, at the word "Ready," 9, 10, 12, 13, 11 and 14, step clear of the recoil. In advancing

vancing or retreating, 12 gives his flow-match to 13, to prevent his blowing up the tube-box of 10, and to enable him to drag more effectually. In action-position, 13 returns his flow-match to 12, always under the traversing handspike, that no sparks may be blown from it by the action of the wind, which would be the case were it handed across the trail with a high flourishing motion.

ORDER of MARCH, when 15 are stationed to a GUN.

3	1	2	15	8	10	12	
Gun		Limber			Horses.	11	
6	4	5	14	7	9	13	

11 unchains. 13 and 12 lift up the trail of the carriage. 4, 6, 1 and 3, take off the tarpauling. 15 and 10 take off one, and 14 and 9 the other side box, and place them on the limbers. 10 and 9 secure them there. 7, 8, 12 and 13, unlash the side arms. 2 and 5, 6 and 3, get ready their dragropes, and the whole will fall into position for action. In marching, when an attack is expected, 7 and 8 will be in their places, and 14 and 15 in front of 13 and 12. When the gun is re-limbered, the same numbers will discharge the same duties reversed. If there are 3 or 2 horses, the above are along the sides of the carriage and limber, 11 being to one side.

DRAGROPE EXERCISE with 15 to a gun.

"Prepare to advance." 1 and 4 go round their hook ends, taking the centre pins on the inside, and giving their hooks (after having flipped round the hook-ends,) to 8 and 7, who will hook them to the breast eye-bolts, and take the rear pins on the inside. 2 and 5 will flip round their



their loop ends, taking the front pins on the inside. 3 and 6 will hook to the drag-washers, and take the rear pins on the outside. 10 and 12, 9 and 13, will move up, quickly, on the right and left, and receive the ropes, (thrown out to them by 3 and 6, when hooking,) taking the centre and front pins on the outside; when all will be arranged, as per advancing position, fig. 4.

“Prepare for action.”—4 and 7 will unhook from the breast eye-bolts, and fall into their stations. 1 and 4 will slip under the ropes, 2 and 5 round the loop ends, and will fall back to their places, each disposing properly of his part of the dragrope he is attached to. 3 and 6 will unhook from the drag-washers, and coil up their ropes, brought back to them by 10 and 12, 9 and 13, in passing to their stations. The whole will be situated as per action position, fig. 4. In advancing and retreating, the gun is trucked. In action position, it is untrucked. In action position, 1 and 3, 4 and 6, hold their hooks, respectively, in their left and right hands. 1 and 4 hold the ends of the hook-chains and rear pins in their right and left hands. 2 and 5 hold the centre pins in their left and right, and the slack of the ropes in their right and left hands, in a loose coil. 3 carries the slack of his rope, coiled over his right, and 6 over his left arm.

“Prepare to retreat.”—14 will move round to his right, and 15 to his left, to take the places of 8 and 7, when there is no action-retreating. 14 will, previously, assist 11 in trucking. If the gun is to retreat in quick time, 14 will assist 11 in steering. 1 and 4 will go round their hook ends, taking the centre pins on the outside, and giving their hooks with their right and left hands to 8 and 7, who will hook on with their right and left hands to the drag-washers, taking the rear pins on the outside. 2 and 5 will slip round their loop ends, taking the front pins on the outside. 9 and 13, 10 and 12, will face to the right and left, move

B

out



out to the rear, and take the centre and front pins of the ropes, received from the left and right arms of 3 and 6, who go to the right about, transferring their hooks and coils to the contrary hands which held them in action-position. 3 will hook to the trail staple with his right, and 6 with his left hand, taking the rear pins on the outside; when all will be in retreating position, fig. 4. No. 8, in checking, gives the sponge-staff to No. 1.

"Prepare for action."—14 and 15 will move to the right and left, to their places. 8 and 7 will unhook from the drag-washers and take position. 1 and 4, 2 and 5, will go round the hook and loop ends, take post, and arrange their ropes as directed, placing themselves in a line with the axle-tree, 1 and 4 being a yard from the washers. 3 and 6 will unhook from the trail-staples, go round their chain ends, take their places, coil, and take their hooks as directed. 10 and 12, 9 and 13, will move up to their stations, bearing up the slack part of their ropes to 3 and 6. In checking, advancing, 3 and 6, 9 and 10 will pass under the ropes, and 13 and 12 round the loop ends. In checking, retreating, 1 and 4, 7 and 8, will slip under the ropes, and 2 and 5 round the loop ends. In preparing to advance, or retreat, when marching, these movements will be reversed.

The DITCH-EXERCISE, with 15 to a LIGHT SIX-POUNDER.

See Plate I. fig. 5.

(The gun advancing) "Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, advancing."—3 and 6 will unhook from the drag-washers, go round their hook-ends and fasten to the naves. 9 and 10 will pass under the ropes, and 12 and 13 round the loop ends. 8 and 7 will unhook from the breast eye-bolts, go round their chain ends, and hook to the drag-washers with their left and right hands, respectively. 1 and

4 will pass under the ropes, and 2 and 5 round the loop ends. The whole being situated, as per the undotted lines of fig. 5, the front ropes advance the gun, while the naves check it, according to the degree of the declivity. 11 and 14 untruck, and take out the traversing handspike, and refix them when the gun is lowered.

" Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, advancing." All being situated as above, 8 and 7 will unhook from the drag-washers, go round their chain ends, and, with their left and right hands, respectively, will hook to the breast eye-bolts. 1 and 4 will pass under the ropes, and 2 and 5 round the loop ends. 3 and 6 will detach their ropes from the naves, go round their chain ends, and fix to the felloes, (as before described minutely), 6 being supposed in the place of 10 in the exercise having 21 to a gun. 9 and 10 will pass under the ropes, and 12 and 13 round the loop ends, when the whole will be situated, as per the dotted lines of fig. 5. The ropes will be shifted, as formerly detailed, till the gun is drawn out of the ditch.

" Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, retreating."

See Plate I. fig. 6.

8 will give his sponge-staff to 1, who will return it when the duty is effected. 11 and 14 will untruck and unhandspike, when the gun is lowered. 8 and 7 will unhook from the drag-washers, go round their chain ends, and fasten round the naves. 1 and 4 will slip under the ropes, and 2 and 5 round the loop ends, and all being situated, as per the undotted lines of fig. 6. the trailropes will draw the gun into the ditch, while the naveropes check it in its descent.

" Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, retreating." 8 (1 still holding his sponge-staff,) and 7 detach their ropes from



from the naves, go round their hook ends and fix to the wheel-felloes, as before described. 1 and 4 will pass under the ropes, and 2 and 5 round the loop ends, when all will be situated, as per the dotted and trailropes of fig. 6th.—The right and left ropes will be shifted, No. 11 giving the words “Halt; Right shift; Left shift; March,” &c. till the gun shall have been drawn out of the ditch.

#### TO RETREAT from ADVANCING POSITION.

“Prepare to retreat.” 3 and 6 will unhook from the drag-washers, go round their hook ends, and hook to the trail-staples. 9 and 10 will pass under the ropes, and 12 and 13 round their loop ends. 8 and 7 will unhook from the breast eye-bolts, and hook to the drag-washers, when the whole will move into retreating position, fig. 4.

#### TO ADVANCE from RETREATING POSITION.

“Prepare to advance.” 8 and 7 will unhook from the drag-washers, and hook to the breast eye-bolts. 1 and 4, 2 and 5, will move round to the front. 3 and 6 will unhook from the trail-staples, go round their chain ends, and hook to the drag-washers. 9 and 10 will pass under the ropes, and 12 and 13 round the loop ends, when the whole will move into advancing position, as *per* fig. 4.

“Prepare to fire retreating.” 1 and 4 will go round their hook ends, and hook to the trail-staples. 2 and 5 will go round their loop ends, and take the centre pins. 3 will coil his rope over his left arm, and 6 over his right, when both will move to the rear, taking the front pins. At the word “Ready,” given by 11, 9 and 10, 12 and 13, will spring one pace to the right and left; 11 will spring two paces,



paces, obliquely, to the rear, and 1 and 4 will unhook, moving one pace, obliquely, to the rear, to be clear from the recoil line. When the gun has been fired, 1 and 4 will hook, and all will regain position. At exercise, 14 will be on the left, on the outside of the rope, as far advanced as 11, and 15 will be two paces behind him. If the gun is retreating in ordinary time, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13, will not change front; No. 10 serving the vent with the proper hand. When the gun retreats, No. 9 and 10 will move off with their respective feet nearest to the wheels, keeping as near the cheeks as possible. Should the pull be heavy, 2 and 5 will slip under the ropes, and 3 and 6 round the loop ends, 10 and 12, 9 and 13, taking their places. At the word "Ready," 10 and 12, 9 and 13, will fall into their own stations. "Prepare for action." 1 and 4 will unhook and go round their hook ends. 2 and 5 will go round their loop ends. 3 and 6 will take their proper stations, placing their ropes in their hands, as in action position.

"Prepare to fire advancing." No. 11 will give the words, "Point. Ready. Fire." 3 will coil his rope over his right, and 6 over his left arm. 3 and 6 will spring up into a line with 1, 4, 2, 5. When the gun has fired, 1 and 4 will hook to the drag-washers, when 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, will move up into advancing position. At the word "Halt," they will fall back into a line with the axletree. Should the gun be going up along an inclined plane, 2 and 5 will slip under the ropes, and 3 and 6 round the loop ends. 8 and 7 will fall in opposite to 1 and 4, and 10 and 12, 9 and 13, will take the centre and front pins on the outside. At the word "Halt," all will fall back into their stations. At the word "Cease firing," 3 and 6 will fall in behind 1 and 4. In quick firing, advancing on an enemy, the dragrope men may fall back into an angle of 45° only, with the gun; 1 and 4 always unhooking. Grape-shot will not diverge, in  
its

its initial flight, so much as to endanger these men whose lines of position form a right angle in front of the ~~trail~~ <sup>man</sup> transom.

N. B. The guns are not to be loaded while they are advancing.

Dragrope exercise, when the whole strength of the gun is applied to two ropes, a case which may arise, when, by any casualty, a rope may be rendered unserviceable.

See Plate I. fig. 7.

On ground which is level, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, will advance, or retreat the gun, as described under the head "Firing advancing;" and in retreating, the drag-washers will be used instead of the trail-staples. Whenever "Ordinary time" precedes the word of command, "With one pair of dragropes prepare to advance," or "Retreat," it is to be understood that 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, only, are to act. If "Quick" is substituted in lieu of "Ordinary time," 12 men will drag the gun, as *per* fig. 7.

"Quick, with one pair of dragropes prepare to advance."

1 and 4 will take the rear pins on the outside, fixing their hooks to the drag-washers. 2 and 5 will pass under the ropes, and 3 and 6 round their loop ends. 10 and 12 will move up on the right, and 9 and 13 on the left, taking the centre and front pins, opposite to 2 and 3, 5 and 6, on the inside. 8 and 7 will take the rear pins on the inside, opposite to 1 and 4; when all will be arranged, as *per* fig. 7. <sup>7</sup>advancing position. 3, in advancing, will have his rope (if even unserviceable) on his left arm, and 6 on his right. 11 and 14 truck.

"Prepare



" Prepare for action." 1 and 4 unhook. 10 and 12, 9 and 13, move back to their places. 8 and 7 fall into their stations. 2 and 5 pass under the ropes, and 3 and 6 round their loop ends; all going into action position. 11 and 14 will untruck.

" Quick, prepare to retreat with one pair of dragropes."

The whole (excepting 1 and 4, who remain as they are) go to the right about,—2, 3, 5 and 6, pass their ropes over their heads, as described in detailing the exercise with 21 to a gun. 1 and 4 give their hooks to 8 and 7, who hook them to the drag-washers, 1 and 4 taking the rear pins on the inside. 2 and 5, 3 and 6, take the centre and rear pins on the outside. 9 and 10, 12 and 13, move to the rear, and take the centre and front pins opposite to 5 and 2, 3 and 6. 8 and 7 take the rear pins opposite to 1 and 4. 3 will have his spare rope (supposed useless) over his left, and 6 over his right arm. 14 and 11 will truck. 12 will give his linstock to 13. 15 goes round to the place of 7, when all will be situated as *per* fig. 7. retreating position.

" Prepare for action." 8 and 7 will unhook from the drag-washers, and fall into their places. 2 and 5 pass under the ropes, and 3 and 6 round their loop ends. 10 and 12, 9 and 13, will move into their stations, as also 2, 3, 5 and 6. 11 and 14 will untruck; and 15 will fall back into his place.

N. B. The drag-washers are preferred to the trail-staples, in this single rope exercise, as the pull is more horizontal and powerful than it would be from the trail; and, particularly, as this position of the ropes affords room to the men to arrange themselves on the in and out-fides.

(From

(From advancing position) "Prepare to retreat."

1 and 4 unhook from the drag-washer, and hook to it again, in order that the point of the hook may be downwards. The whole move round into retreating position.

(From retreating position) "Prepare to advance."

1 and 4 unhook from the drag-washers, and hook on again in advancing position, into which all move.

N. B. 1 and 4 in unhooking, and taking action position, will always turn the drag-washers under the axletree, to be ready for the hooks, in either direction.

#### WHEELING.

The expression, "On centre," will always precede a wheeling order, as it indicates that such an order is immediately to follow, and serves as a preparative for being ready to obey it. The gun should be wheeled entirely by the lever power of the traversing handspike and trail. If the ropes are made use of, the movement they produce, being in a great measure a mixed lateral and progressive one, will occasion a change of ground from the original position of the gun, which, in a neat execution of manœuvres, is to be avoided. In artillery wheeling, the men will face to the hand wheeled to, and move at the rate of 108 paces in a minute; battalion time of 120, being too quick for artillery. In all wheelings, the men move to their own right or left, according to the direction they are in.

" On



"On centre,"	{	Right wheel. Left wheel. Right about wheel. Left about wheel. Half right wheel. Half left wheel.	}	"Advancing or re- treating."
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To combine the above field-piece exercise at drill, the words of command will be "Prepare to advance." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to retreat." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to advance." (From this position,) "Prepare to retreat." From this position, "Prepare to advance." All the wheelings, checkings, and half wheelings, in advancing and retreating order.—"Prepare to advance." "Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, advancing." "Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, advancing." "Prepare to retreat." "Prepare to lower the gun into the ditch, retreating." "Prepare to draw the gun out of the ditch, retreating." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to fire three rounds, retreating." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to fire three rounds, advancing."—To this drill abstract may be added, occasionally, though not the most serviceable species of exercise; "Quick, with one pair of dragropes prepare to advance." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to retreat." "Prepare for action." "Prepare to advance." "Prepare to retreat." "Prepare to advance." "Prepare for action." "Change round;" or, "Right about face." "Break off."

Such is the dragrope exercise. It has been circumstantially detailed, in order that it might be clearly understood. Experience has evinced, that a perfect knowledge of it may be acquired in a very inconsiderable period of time, and that when once thoroughly comprehended, it is easily retained in memory.

The following manœuvres were practised, to render the corps expert in accompanying the battalion to which it is attached, (the 1st regiment of Royal Edinburgh Volunteers,) in its field-evolutions.

1. The artillery, in column, will march round, in ordinary and quick time, in alignement.
2. The line will advance, halt, and fire from flanks to centre.
3. The line will retreat, halt, and fire, from centre to flanks.
4. The line will change front to the right, and fire from right to left.
5. The artillery will reform line.
6. The line will change front to the left, and fire from left to right.
7. The artillery will reform the line.
8. The artillery will form the great square, and fire from flanks to centre, in line succession.
9. The artillery will reduce the square.
10. The artillery will form the small square, and fire from centre to flanks, in line succession.
11. The artillery will reduce the square.
12. The artillery will march in alignement, in file, in quick time.
13. The artillery will fire, retreating in line.
14. The artillery will form en echelon, and fire from flanks to centre.
15. The artillery will reduce the echelon into line.
16. The artillery will pass through a defile.
17. The artillery will retreat over a bridge.



18. The artillery will form close column on the right brigade.
19. The artillery will deploy into line.
20. The right wing will advance, under the fire of the left, which will then form up with it.
21. The left wing will retreat, under the fire of the right, which will then retreat into line, under the fire of the left.
22. The artillery will form en potence on the right wing.
23. The artillery will reduce the en potence into line.
24. The artillery will form en potence on the left wing, and fire three rounds from flanks to centre.
25. The artillery will reduce the en potence into line.
26. The artillery will retreat by alternate guns.
27. The artillery will move to the flanks, to battalion distance, form line, and fire a royal salute.

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When guns move off, halt, or wheel together, the *senior* officer of the division gives the word. Each officer gives the word, when the guns act separately, or successively. The officer will march two paces in front of his dragrope-men. In line, on the right, the officers will take post between the dragrope-men and wheel, to the right. The officers of the left wing will rank from the left. When the guns are firing, the officers are in all situations, so as to direct their fire most effectually. On the march, the officers will take post behind the gun. The drums and fifes will fall in, in the centre.

The corps being armed with swords, when the order of march is formed by the non-commissioned officers of the guns, the general words of command will be, "Handle  
" swords;" the right hand is applied to the hilt, and left to  
the

the scabbard. ("Draw swords;") they are drawn, and held perpendicularly, the right hand being breast high, and the left dropping down by the side. ("Carry swords;" the blade is let fall into the left hand, raised to meet it, and is carried at an angle  $60^{\circ}$ . ("Return swords,") two motions; the sword is sheathed, and the hands drop to the sides.—If a compliment is to be paid on the line of march, the men will be ordered to "Port swords," when they will raise them to a perpendicular direction, the right hand being breast high. The officers will, in this case, drop their points, when the men are raising theirs.

#### MANOEUVRES.

March means ordinary time.

1. The artillery, in column, will march round, in ordinary and quick time, in allignement.

See plate I. fig. 9.

Right brigade, "Prepare to advance." "~~Slow~~ march." Inner gun, when at b. "Halt, on centre left wheel, halt." Right gun, when at a. "Halt; on centre left wheel; march." When at c. "Halt."—*Senior* officer gives the word "March." This is repeated at each angle. The left and centre brigades march round on the same principle. The right centre, and left brigade left gun, wheel to the right, and the left centre, and inner left guns, move on the inside; and reverse these movements in wheeling into line. The movement is so obvious, that it is unnecessary to detail the words of command to each gun.

N. B. A detachment of pikemen follow each gun in all these manœuvres, viz. 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th division, from the right.

2. The



2. The line will advance, halt, and fire three rounds from flanks to centre.

" Prepare to advance." " March." " Halt." " Prepare for action."

3. The line will retreat, halt, and fire two rounds, from centre to flanks.

" Prepare to retreat." " March." " Halt." " Prepare for action."

4. The line will change front to the right, upon the inner right gun, and fire two rounds from right to left.

Inner right gun, by the trail, " On centre right wheel."

Right gun, " Prepare to retreat." " March." " Halt." " Right wheel." " March." " Halt." " Prepare for action."

Inner left gun, " Prepare to advance." " March." " Halt." " Right wheel." " March." " Halt." " Prepare for action."

Left gun, " Prepare to advance." " Half right wheel." " March." " Halt." " Half right wheel." " Prepare for action." See plate I. fig. 10.

5. The artillery will wheel into or reform the line. To effect this, the words of command of the last manœuvre will be reversed.

6. The line will change front to the left, and fire two rounds from left to right.

See plate I. fig. 11.

7. The artillery will reform the line.

The words of command for effecting this and the last manœuvre, are obvious from the detail of those of the 4th.

If

If the line consists of any number of guns, in changing from line to the right or left, excepting the three right, or three left guns, they all oblique like the left gun of manœuvre 4th, or the right gun of manœuvre 6th.

8. The artillery will form the great square on the flank guns, and fire two rounds from flanks to centre, in line-succession.

See plate I. fig. 12.

Right gun, " On centre, right wheel."—Left gun, " Left about wheel."

Inner right gun, " Prepare to advance."—" March."—" Halt."—" Right wheel."—" March."—" Halt."—" Left wheel."—" Prepare for action."

Inner left gun, " Prepare to advance."—" March."—" Halt."—" Left wheel."—" March."—" Halt."—" Prepare for action."

9. The artillery will reduce the great square into line.—Right gun, " On centre, left wheel."—Left gun, " Right about, wheel."

Inner right gun, " Prepare to retreat."—" Half right wheel."—" March."—" Halt."—" Half left wheel."—" Prepare for action."

Inner left gun, " Prepare to retreat."—" Half right wheel."—" March."—" Halt."—" Half right wheel."—" Prepare for action."—During the execution of reducing these manœuvres, the officers commanding the divisions of pikemen will form them in the rear of their respective guns with the least possible movement, and with the fewest words of command. When the line is formed, the 2d and 3d divisions will join in the centre; the first division going to the right, and the 4th to the left.



10. The artillery will form the small square, and fire two rounds from centre to flanks, in line-succeffion.

See plate I. fig. 13.

This square is formed on the inner flank-guns; and the mode of forming it, is obvious from the detail of the preceding evolution; they are arranged as a, b, c, d. If there are fix guns, they take position in the great square in the arrangement 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. In this case, the fix divisions of pikemen will form close column on the right division, in the centre of the square, and deploy into their respective situations when the square is reducing. In line, the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th divisions will take post behind their guns; and the 1st and 6th (if there are fix guns) on the right and left flanks. In forming the square, the guns move over the base and perpendicular of a right-angled triangle, and, in its reduction to line, the same guns move along the hypotenuse. This is done, that practice may be afforded in the varieties of wheeling. On service, the shortest line leading to the object must be adopted.

11. The artillery will reduce the small-square. Mode obvious.

12. The artillery will march, in file, in alignement, in quick time.

Right gun, "Prepare to advance."—"Quick march."  
"Halt."—"On centre, left wheel."—"Quick march,"  
&c. till it arrives on its original ground. The other guns will wheel to the left on the ground of the right gun.—  
"Artillery, left wheel into line."

13. The artillery will fire, retreating in line.

Firing, advancing, being a part of this movement, the line will fire fix rounds, advancing, and fix, retreating; the guns advancing or retreating two paces after each fire. The divisions of pikemen keep in the rear of their guns.

14. The artillery will form en echellon, and fire two rounds from flanks to centre.

See plate I. fig. 17.

Right gun, "Half right wheel."—Left gun, "Half left wheel."

Centre guns, "Prepare to advance,"—"March."—"Halt."—"Prepare for action."—The divisions of pikemen will keep in the rear of their guns. If six guns are in line, the centre guns move out in front to twice their own central distance, and the inner flank-guns will take post in the sides of the echellon.

15. The artillery will reduce the echellon into line.

The front guns retreat, and the flank guns half wheel into line.

16. The artillery will pass through a defile.

See plate I. fig. 14.

The right gun will occupy the rising ground B, having on the right the impervious wood E, and small road. The left gun will take possession of the rising ground A, having the wood F on the left. These guns will flank and cover the centre guns in moving through the defile C. When the centre guns have passed, they cover the flank guns while forming up with them. If there is a danger of being charged, the small square will be immediately formed, having the pikemen, in column, in the centre, to be ready to act as the emergency may require.

17. "The artillery will retreat over a bridge."

This is the reverse of the former evolution. The flank guns pass, covered by the fire of the centre guns. The flank guns form on the opposite side, covering the centre guns in their retreat. The right and left divisions of pikemen



men will join the centre ones, and accompany the centre guns retreating. The divisions will retreat in file.

18. The artillery will form close column on the right brigade.

See plate I. fig. 15.

The inner right will oblique behind the right. The left will move along the front and occupy the place of the inner right. The inner left will oblique to the rear of the left.

If there are six guns, the centre brigade will retreat, wheel to the left, and form behind the left brigade, which in this case forms in the rear of the right, and the officers rank from front to rear. If two lines of three guns are to be formed from a line of six guns, the officers will rank from right to left of both lines.

In this last case, the right, and right centre gun, stand fast. The inner right gun will oblique into the rear of the right gun, while the left gun is moving along the front to occupy the place left by the inner right. The inner left and centre left oblique to the right, into the rear of their respective guns.

19. The artillery will deploy into line.

The reverse of the above movements will effect this.

20. The right wing will advance under the fire of the left, which will then form up with it.

In this case, the left will keep up a fire till the right has halted, formed, and commenced firing; when the left will move up rapidly into line.

21. The left wing will retreat under the fire of the right, which will then retreat into line under the fire of the left. This movement is the reverse of the last, bearing reference to the rear.

22. The artillery will form en potence on the right wing.

See plate I. fig. 18.

The right guns stand fast. The inner left a, retreats to proper distance, wheels to the left; and prepares for action.

D

The

The left gun, b, half wheels to the left, retreats to double distance, half wheels to the left, and prepares for action.

The pikemen keep posted in the rear of their respective guns.

23. The artillery will reduce the en potence into line. Reverse the last movements to accomplish this.

24. The artillery will form en potence on the left wing, and fire three rounds from flanks to centre.

See plate I. fig. 16.

The mode of producing this disposition, the 22. points out.

25. The artillery will reduce the en potence into line. Obvious.

26. The artillery will retire by alternate guns.

After having fired from right to left, which will always precede this manœuvre, the right, right centre, and inner left guns, will prepare to retreat; and moving very rapidly, will gain half the distance from the line they left, to the place where the line is to be formed. Having gained this ground, they will halt, and prepare for action. When the left, left centre, and inner right guns, which maintained a continued fire, observe that the right guns are formed, they will be ordered by the *senior* officer to "Prepare to retreat firing." They will retreat in this way till they have passed the intervals of the right guns, when they will prepare to retreat, and the right guns will commence an independent fire. When the left guns have gained the line of formation, they will halt and prepare for action. The right guns will then retreat firing, till they reach the intervals in the line, when they will halt, prepare for action, and a round will be fired from left to right.

27. The artillery will move to the flanks, to battalion distance, and fire a royal salute.

The wings move from each other in file, halt, and wheel to the right and left into line. The interval of firing will be



be six seconds; four being counted on the fingers, and the words "Ready," and "Fire," affording two more. These manœuvres were calculated for the number of guns which the corps could command. With a greater number of guns, they might be increased, and varied almost indefinitely.

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### PIKE EXERCISE.

The Royal Edinburgh Volunteer Artillery are provided with pikes, attached to the carriage and limber, on the line of march. Four men are assigned to carry 20, the complement of each gun. These, when the gun is posted, take their stations to the right and left of No. 14. On the word, "Prepare pikes," 8 and 7 will step back into a line with 1, 2, 4 and 5. 9 will cover 7. 10 will cover 8. 12 will cover 2. 13 will cover 5. 15 will cover 14 on the left. The pike-bearers will, in an instant, from the rear, distribute their pikes, and take post on the left and right, as 16, 17, 18 and 19. The officer will take post on the right, covered by 11, the non-commissioned officer. 16 will carry three front and two rear pikes; four of which he gives to 5, 14, 13 and 15, when he will take post to the left of 14. 17 will carry three rear and two front pikes, which he will give to 7, 4, 9 and 6, and cover 16. 18 and 19 will act in the same manner on the right. On the left flank, 14 and 15 will take post on the right; and the officer, covered by 11, on the left. No. 21 will attend the limber.

See plate I. fig. 8.

N. B. 4 will give his rope to 7. 6 his to 9. 1 his to 8, and 3 his to 10.—7, 9, 8 and 10, will throw them across  
the

the muzzle and breach of the gun. 9 will put his portfire on the locker. 12 will leave his bucket and linstock at the trail. 14 and 15 will take post with the cartouches on.

If 21 are stationed at the gun, the non-commissioned officers cover each other, and the officer commands generally.

The front rank pikes are 8 feet in length, exclusive of a brass tube, 5 inches long, attached to the lower end by two rivets, at right angles to each other. The half of the tube is filled with lead, covered in by an iron ferrule. The weight at the bottom brings the centre of gravity, in the charging position, near the left hand, which is evidently an advantage in the management of the weapon. The rear rank pikes are longer, in order that all, in a charge, may have the same degree of projection. They are an inch in diameter at the bottom, and an inch and 2-8ths at two third parts from the bottom, tapering to an inch, where the head, of 4 fides, terminating in a point, is fixed.

The Pike Manual consists of Six words and Thirteen motions, corresponding (excepting in fixing bayonets) to those of the infantry manual exercise.

#### Position of the Body, as *per* DUNDAS's Exercise.

##### Position of ordered Pike.

The lower end of the pike rests on the ground, and touches the outside of the ball of the right foot. The right hand is extended downwards, and the inside of the thumb, fore, and middle fingers, coincides with the pike resting perpendicularly against the right shoulder. The pike is held firmly compressed in this position, between the outside of the upper part of the thigh, and the inside of the lower part of the arm.

Position



Position in standing at Ease.

From the above position, the right foot is thrown back six inches, and planted smartly behind the left. The hands at the same instant meet in front, and close into each other.

Position of shouldered Pikes.

The pike, at the left shoulder, rests on the ball of the left fore-finger. The thumb, and three other fingers, embrace it with a firm grasp. It is compressed in this position by the left wrist, and the inside of the left arm (not at full extent) against the left side, and held perpendicularly.

MANUAL EXERCISE.

I.—ORDER PIKE.—Three Motions.

1. The right hand seizes the pike, rather above the left shoulder.
2. It is carried quickly across the body, with its lower end within three inches of the ground, supported between the thumb and three first fingers of the right hand extended, and by the left hand carried to the right shoulder.
3. It is let fall to the ground, the right hand being brought, at the same instant, to extend in front, coinciding with it, and the left let fall to the left side.

II.—FIX BAYONETS.

No corresponding pike motions.

III.—SHOULDER PIKE.—One Motion.

On hearing the word "Shoulder," the right hand slips behind the pike, applied to the hollow between the fore finger and thumb, which, with the two fore-fingers, seizes it firmly. The pike is carried across the body, and during this quick lateral movement, is caught with an upward hitch or jerk, by the right hand, within a foot and a half of the

the lower end. The left hand, at the same time, receives the lower end <sup>of the pike, then is elevated</sup> at the left shoulder, and the right falls instantly to its proper side.

#### IV.—PRESENT PIKE.—Three Motions.

1. Turn the left wrist a little inwards, seize the pike at the same instant close under the left shoulder, applying the ball of the thumb to the right side of the pike.

2. Poise the pike, the left hand, and inside of the left arm, extending (hand open) along the left side of the pike, with the top of the left fore-finger as high as, and in front of, the left eye.

3. Lower the pike quickly to the full extent of the right hand and arm, the left sustaining its weight between the inside of the fingers and thumb; and the hollow of the right foot being brought, at the same time, in conjunction with the left heel.

#### V.—SHOULDER PIKE.—Two Motions.

1. Bring the pike with the right hand to the left shoulder, seizing it, at the same time, at the lower end, with the left hand, and bringing up the right foot to an angle of  $60^{\circ}$  with the left.

2. Quit the pike with the right hand, and let it fall down to the right side.

#### VI.—CHARGE PIKE.—One mixed and one single Motion.

1. The pike is seized by the right hand, opposite to the left elbow. The left hand immediately slides eight inches above the right, which, at the same instant almost, descends, seizing the lower end. The pike is inclined, slanting across the body at an angle of  $80^{\circ}$ ; and these four motions must be combined into one, in order to keep time with the battalion.

2. Half face to the right, bring down the pike to the charge (point breast high), and hold it firmly against the body,



body, with the arms not extended, but firmly contracted to the shoulders.

N. B. The first four motions (thrown into one) are termed "Porting pike;" which, separately from the manual, will be effected by the word "Port pike."—The rear rank must, in going through the first complicated motion, step one pace to the right, to be enabled to bring the pikes down to the charge.

#### VII.—SHOULDER PIKE.—Two Motions.

1. Front, bring the pike to the left shoulder, and support it with the right hand against the shoulder.
2. Quit the pike with the right hand.

N. B. In quitting the right hand, the rear rank spring one pace to the left.

"Support pike."—Two motions.—The right hand is applied to the part of the pike opposite to the left elbow, the thumb being against the right side, and the left arm is brought horizontally to close or fold over the right.

On the line of march, "Advance pike."—Three motions.

1. The right hand seizes the pike under the left shoulder.
2. It is carried quickly across the body, held against the right shoulder by the left hand, between its open fingers and thumb; and below between the open fingers and thumb of the right hand, at its full extent. The right hand, at the same time, flips to the front of the pike, the right forefinger lying along the front, and the thumb and three forefingers grasping it firmly.
3. The left hand falls to the left side.

In the ancient mode of receiving the charge, the pike was supported horizontally on the left palm, held shoulder high, and the right hand, having the elbow raised, held the lower end.

Disposition

## Disposition for receiving a Charge.

All at ordered pikes, at the word "Prepare the Charge," first motion; the front and rear ranks will flip the hand behind the pike, applying the hollow between the thumb and fore-finger to the back part of it;—the front rank will face to the right on the heels, bringing the left hand to the pike, half way between the elbow and shoulder, at the same time raising the pike over the toes, and applying its lower end to the ball of the right foot. The rear rank will, at the same time, throw up the pike to the right shoulder, the left seizing it where the right held it at the order, the right grasping it at the lower end, and all the rear rank springing, at the same time, a small pace to the right. These things having been done, the first of the two motions will be accomplished. Second motion. The front rank will incline the pike at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$ , the left foot will step out at the same instant a full pace, so that the left leg shall be perpendicular, with the pike resting against the inside of the left thigh, four inches above the knee, the right leg and thigh stretched nearly in the direction of the pike. The right hand is, at the same moment, applied to the sword hilt.—The rear rank will come down to the ordinary charge.—The front rank will draw swords, in two motions: The first; They will draw the sword, holding it perpendicular, the hilt being breast high. The second; They will throw the sword into a horizontal position, as high as the forehead. "Order pikes;" these motions will be reversed. The front rank will use the left hand only in coming to the order. In raising the pike from the inclined position, the right hand and hilt of the sword drop to the right side, the blade pointing upwards, and lying along the pike. First motion, The sword is sheathed. Second motion, The hands drop to the right and left.





(To face page 32.)

# PART MISCELLAN

A Variety of very useful matter, relative to the field-service of Artillery, which, if it be detrimental to the public interest to publish it, a detail will be made.

## FORM OF REPORT OF Report of Artillery Practice, carried on by the R. E. V. Artillery, Sands, on Monday, 9th July 1798, (the last practice).

By whom pointed.		Rank.	Number of rounds.	Grazed.				Shot, feet		
				Short yards.	Beyond ditto.	To the right do.	To the left do.	Above the centre.	Below the centre.	To the right of do.
RIGHT GUN.	John Campbell,	1st Lieut.	1						3	
	Carlile Bell,	1st Gunr.	2						$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
	Burnet Bruce,	Ditto.	3		40		$1\frac{1}{2}$			
	Thomas Lattimer,	Ditto.	4						4	
	John Porteous,	Ditto.	5		220	3				
	Roger Ayton,	Serjeant.	6		65		1			
	John Campbell,	1st Lieut.	7	36					3	
	Robert Dundas,	Bombr.	8						4	
LEFT GUN.	Carlile Bell,	1st Gunr.	9		30		$1\frac{1}{2}$			
	James Glasford,	1st Lieut.	1		8		$1\frac{1}{2}$			
	William Baillie,	2d Lieut.	2	20					$\frac{3}{4}$	
	Edward Lothian,	1st Gunr.	3					4		
	John Cochrane,	Ditto.	4						$2\frac{1}{2}$	
	David Anderfon,	Ditto.	5						2	
	William Ballantyne,	Ditto.	6						$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
	David Williamfon,	Capt. Lt.	7						$3\frac{1}{2}$	
	James Glasford,	1st Lieut.	8						$1\frac{1}{2}$	
	Alexander Irvine.	2d Lieut.	9						$3\frac{1}{2}$	

Lieutenant-Colonel RIMINGTON,  
commanding the Royal Artillery  
in North Britain.



# ART II.

## LLANEOUS.

old-service of Artillery, might be introduced here; but as it might  
tail will be written in orders only, for the instruction of the corps.

### RT OF GUN PRACTICE.

E. V. Artillery, with Two Six-Pounder light Guns, on Leith  
(ice).

Shot, feet.				Ring.				Direction, feet.				Angle.		Target at 450 yards.	Remarks.
Above the centre.	Below the centre.	To the right of do.	To the left of do.	1st.	2d.	3d.	4th.	Above the centre.	Below ditto.	To the right of do.	To the left of do.	Degrees.	Minutes.		
	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3		In		In	4				30		Hit.	
								4				30		Hit.	
	4		4				In	4				30		Hit.	
								4				30			
	3					In		4				30		Hit.	
	4		4				In	4				30		Hit.	
								4				30			
						In		4				30		Hit.	
								4				30		Hit.	
						In		4				30		Hit.	
4	$\frac{3}{4}$						In	4				30		Hit.	
	$2\frac{1}{2}$		3				In	4				30		Hit.	
	2				In			4				30		Hit.	
	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$					In	4				30		Hit.	
	$3\frac{1}{2}$					In		$3\frac{1}{2}$				30		Hit.	
	$1\frac{1}{2}$		$4\frac{1}{2}$				In	$3\frac{1}{2}$				30		Hit.	
	$3\frac{1}{2}$		$4\frac{1}{2}$				In	3				30		Hit.	

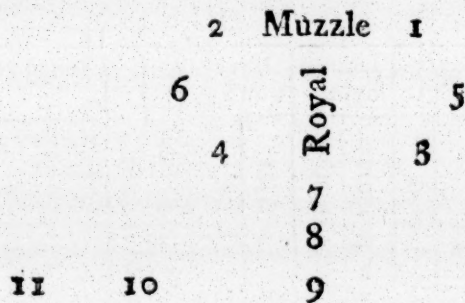
JOHN MACDONALD,  
Capt. R. E. V. Artillery.







Five men are sufficient for the management of a royal. 11 are stationed, in order that the process of measuring, cutting, reducing, and fixing the fuze, may be accurately exhibited.



1 sponges. 2 loads, uncaps the fuze, and drudges. 3 serves the vent, and carries quick-match. 4 fires. 5 and 6 handspike. 5 carries a piece of chalk. 6 carries the marking and laying lines. 7 commands and lays the mortar. 8 carries ammunition, a quadrant and perpendicular. 9 is in charge of the shells. 10 cuts the fuzes as directed by 7. 10 has a fuze-knife and bench. 11 has fetters and a mallet, and fixes the fuze.—No. 9 will reckon the pendulum vibrations. The medium range given by a certain number of ounces of powder, at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$ , will be ascertained. The ranges for the ensuing practice will be given out; and the officers, and such of the non-commissioned officers and 1st gunners as choose it, will be directed to come furnished with the corresponding angles and times of flight, deduced from calculation. The officer commanding at practice, will, as usual, make a report to the commandant of the Royal Artillery.

## O N F U Z E S.

Supposing the resistance of the air uniform, and the action of inflamed powder equal, the inequality in the times of burning



burning of fuzes of the same length, will occasion the bursting of a shell, high in the air, or after it has entered the ground. In either case, the explosion is useless in its effect. This inaccuracy in the time of burning of fuzes, may proceed from six causes, but principally from the first.

1. It proceeds from the varying physical state of body of the person driving the fuze by the hand, at different periods of his work, whereby strokes of varying powers are given to the same quantity of composition; from which it follows, that the several parts of the driven composition will have different densities, and, consequently, burn in an ununiform manner; that is to say, equal parts of the same fuze, having been driven with applications of differing powers of stroke, will burn in unequal times, and, therefore, entire fuzes of the same cylindrical bore and depth, from the same cause, will have the same effect; from which it is evident, that their application to the times of flight of shells, found by theory on the pendulum, will be liable to produce a very inaccurate effect.

2. It may proceed from a difference of diameter of the bores of fuzes, occasioning such as are of a larger bore than others, to contain more fixed composition, which will evidently produce a variation in the times of burning of fuzes of the same class.

3. It may arise from a difference in the cylindrical lengths of the bores, the effect of which will be a greater condensation of the composition, and necessarily a slower consumption in burning.

4. It may result from the shapes of the ladles in use for charging the fuze with. These ladles are semi-cylinders, rounded

rounded off at one extremity, and rising in a species of curve at the other, fixed to a wooden handle. The men employed are apt to push these ladles into the composition, sometimes near the surface, and sometimes at a greater depth in the box containing it. It is evident, that the ladles will contain more in the second than in the first case, and that the fuze may thus be filled with varying quantities of composition. Without an unremitting attention, seldom kept up by the description of men employed, the surfaces of these ladles with curvilinear edges, will not be regularly levelled, and, therefore, the quantities taken up may vary. The combined effect of the two causes under this 4th head, may occasion a considerable variation in the times of burning of fuzes of the same kind; that is to say, if different quantities are compressed with the same weight, power, or force, proceeding from a stroke, a larger will, of course, be less dense or compact in its construction than a smaller, and being more porous, and liable to be more immediately acted on by the flame, will burn in less time, occasioning different equal parts of the same fuze to burn in unequal times, and fuzes of the same kind, in varying times.

5. This inaccuracy may arise from inattention in mixing up the composition each time, previous to filling the ladles. If this is neglected, the saltpetre being the heaviest body among the ingredients, will naturally subside through the small crevices formed by the minute grains of the sulphur and mealed powder, the consequence of which will be, that the charges of different ladles, *ergo*, of fuzes of the same sort, will be of varying temperatures or qualities of mixture, (though loaded with the same composition), and burn in different times.



6. A sixth cause may be added, proceeding from a dissimilar state of the weather, during different periods of the operation. In dull cloudy weather, tending to rain, the ingredients forming the composition will be affected by the moisture, and will burn slower than the same, driven in hot clear weather.—The writer of these sheets saw, in the course of his practice, the necessity of applying a remedy to these causes of inaccuracy in the burning of fuzes. The 2d, 3d, 5th and 6th, may be removed, probably by a minute attention to the circumstances stated. The 4th may be obviated by making use of complete, in lieu of semi-cylinder ladles, into which the composition may be turned over with a knife, or flat thin piece of brass, taking it always from the surface. These cylinders, fixed on neat wooden handles, can be levelled accurately, and each ladle will be thus uniformly charged. The first cause of error is the most difficult to remove. This, however, has been effected, by substituting the action of a weight falling through a small space, in lieu of the irregular power of the hand driving or fixing the composition with a mallet. The machine termed “The Fuze-driver,” has no claim to originality, being only the pile-driver reduced to a small scale, and applied to a different purpose. It is probable, that a similar machine may have been used in driving rockets, merely to remedy a defect in power in the hand, and not to produce the great desideratum hitherto wanted, “equality of burning;” as rockets burn in varying times, and hence the inequalities observable at different points of their flight. The fuzes driven by this machine have been repeatedly tried, and found to burn in equal times; or at least, within a medium difference of a quarter of a second. It may be possible, (for it has been done), after repeated experiments, conducted with a minute attention to avoid causes of inaccuracy, to select, from twenty or thirty men,  
five,

five, who will produce fuzes almost as good as those driven by the machine. In general, however, this will not be the case, unless the hand acts more steadily in this than in a warmer climate, where it is a known fact, that it acquires a nervous tremor from an affection of the nervous system. The fuze-driver was, when first constructed, a complicated machine, worked by four men. It is now simplified in construction, and requires two men only. The following rough section of it, serving at the same time as an elevation, will give a sufficient idea of the machine. The part of the rope 9 to the left, though not seen in section, is thrown in.

See plate I. fig. 19.

3 is a solid block of wood, or a strong table, in which are fixed the two uprights 1, 1, four inches square, of brass, and connected at the top by the cross bar 10. The uprights are four feet high; and are fixed firm to the block, by lateral inclined braces. The distance between them is eight inches. 2 is a brass weight of 33 pounds, travelling in grooves in the uprights, an inch square, and an inch in depth. The parts of the weight fitting these grooves, are only two-third parts of its length, and have on them the whole friction of the weight in ascending and descending. These parts fitting the grooves, are represented by two dark lines on the sides of the weight. 8 is a brass pulley, fixed in the cross-piece 10. Over this pulley is a rope 9, which raises the weight. 4 is a small moveable block, having a hole in which it receives the fuze 5 up to its neck nearly. 6 is the drift let into the fuze 5. 7 is the space between the top of the drift and the bottom of the weight, through which equal space, the weight falls in acting on the drift, which condenses the composition in the fuze. The rope is fixed to a piece of wood one foot in length, in order  
that



that the weight may be raised by both hands. The block 3 should have square holes, (11) knee-high, cut in it, sufficiently deep to admit the knees of the two men who work (one on either side) near the weight, and take off all constraint of position. We shall call those working the machine numbers one and two. One has his box of composition resting on the block, also his fuze, drift, ladle, a brass or copper knife, having a thin flat blade, a cylindrical piece of copper, two inches and a quarter in length, and two tenths of an inch in diameter, termed his measurer. Number two's province is solely to raise and let fall the weight. No. 1 commences by placing the box 4, with its hole exactly under the centre of the weight. He fixes it in this position, by pins let into holes on its four sides. He mixes up his composition carefully and slowly, (that the light ingredient, the mealed powder, may not fly off) before he loads each ladle. He pushes his flat knife always with the same velocity of hand along the surface of the composition, taking up a sufficient quantity to fill the cylindrical ladle, into which the composition is gently discharged. He draws the measurer along the top of the ladle in order to level it, the superfluous composition falling into the box. He holds the fuze inclined to one side, and discharges the composition slowly into it, that the air displaced by it in the bore, may not rush out too suddenly, and carry off some of the light part of the ingredients. He places the fuze in its position under the weight, by carrying his left hand round the left pillar of the machine. He gently introduces the drift into it. He holds the bowl of the fuze, resting in its hole, with the 2d, 3d, and 4th fingers of his left hand, and the drift, in the fuze, between the thumb and fore-finger of the left, holding it loosely. No. 1 has now raised the weight about three inches above the top of the drift. No. 2, with his right hand, applies  
his

his measurer, perpendicularly, on the top of the drift. No. 1 gently lowers the weight till it touches the top of the measurer, on which No. 2 withdraws it, and No. 1 instantly lets fall the weight, and raises it as before, on which No. 2 loosens the drift, holding it between his thumb and finger, and introduces the measurer as before, to repeat the operation.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inch fuzes receive five of these strokes, and seven must be given to those of a larger size. By raising the weight higher, one stroke, instead of five, might be thought to produce a saving of time and labour; but one such stroke would split the fuze. It is customary to drive with the last ladleful of composition, two strands of quick-match, at right angles to each other, that they may catch fire from the explosion of the charge in the chamber of a mortar. The part of the bore of the fuze, having this driven or fixed quick-match in it, will contain a mixture of composition and match, that will burn in less time than an equal part of the same fuze. To prevent this, a bit of pin should be fixed in the side of the bowl of a fuze; and through the eye formed by this bent piece of pin, a strand of quick-match may be passed. This contrivance has been adopted in India, as the fuze, in that case was accurately filled up with composition only. It has been usual to cut fuzes in a slanting direction, across the axis. By this mode, it will be difficult to cut the fuze at any determinate point; and, therefore, to exclude all possibility of error, it ought to be sawed across perpendicular to the axis. It was urged in support of the former mode of cutting, that the slanting inclined plane of the cut composition, afforded a greater field of fire for the inflammation of the charge in the shell, than the perpendicular plane at right angles to the axis. The fact is, that in either case, the spark attains to the powder at the same instant, if the distance from the bowl of the fuze to the initial point of the composition is the same,



same, and that the certainty of proportioning the length of the fuze to the time of flight, is infinitely in favour of the second mode. In using the fuze-driver, a contrivance might be adopted, calculated to save time and diminish labour. Let four pins be screwed into the four corners of the bottom of the weight. These pins must be two inches and a quarter in length, or as long as the measurer. Let two threads, or wires, be fixed to the extremities of these pins, one on the side next to No. 1, and the other on the opposite. No. 1, by bringing these wires into the same plane with the level flat top of the drift, and by letting it always fall when thus situated, will work the weight accurately without a measurer.

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## ON LAYING MORTARS.

THERE is not a more important part in the practice of artillery, than the laying of a mortar, in such a manner that the shell may attain to its object with precision. If the plane, passing through the axis of the mortar and the centre of the shell, is not perfectly perpendicular to the plane of the horizon, the projectile will deviate to the right or left, from the line of the range. The object to be destroyed by the explosion, or fall of the shell, should be situated in this plane. The common mode of laying a mortar, is to find, by means of an instrument called a Perpendicular, two points, one on the muzzle reinforcing ring, and one on the breech-ring; both which points are supposed equally distant from the horizon, on either side. It is supposed, that a plane passing through these two points, is perpendicular to the horizontal plane. Previous to finding these points with a perpendicular, the centre line of the mortar,

F and

and the object are, by the eye only directing, brought as nearly as possible into the same plane of coincidence. This precaution excludes a necessity that would arise of laying off fresh points with the perpendicular, or moving the mortar, in the smallest degree to the right or left, as the mortar would, in such a case, (unless when on a very well laid platform) change its level of position. If the perpendicular with which these points were found, was true, and if the circumferences on which these points are situated, were true in regard to their centres, a plane passing through them would certainly be perpendicular to the horizon, would bisect the mortar and shell, and consequently, such a plane and the object being brought to coincide, the shell would be delivered with an axis over the range dividing it into two hemispheres, one to the right, and the other to the left. This situation of the shell would carry it, *ceteris paribus*, to its object without any considerable deviation. In the best constructed used mortars I have ever seen, the radii have seldom been perfectly equal, when compared to each other. They vary sometimes as much as 1-10th of an inch. This affords a very strong presumption, that the other reinforcing rings are equally erroneous in respect of their centres. If we suppose one ring only (of those used) to have its circumference unequally situated from its centre, the effect will be almost equally erroneous, as when both rings or circumferences have their radii unequal.

The perpendicular is an instrument well known to practical artillerists. It is precisely, but with different means, on the same principle as a mason's common level. The principle of it is, that when the air bubble is at rest in the middle of the spirit-level tube, the extremities of the legs are equally distant from the bubble, and from opposite points in the plane of the level, at equal distances from the centre. This being its construction, it follows, that a plane  
drawn



drawn through the two points, or extremities of the legs, will be parallel to the horizon, and, consequently, that when the air bubble is at rest in the middle, the extremities of the legs are equally distant from the horizon. If the axis of the glass cylinder, containing the spirit and bubble, is not, when the instrument is constructed, made perfectly parallel to the line passing through the extremities of the legs, the perpendicular will be false. Supposing that the reinforcing rings of a mortar, form exact circles to their centres in the axis of the mortar, if the perpendicular is not conformable to the above description, the plane passing through the two points given by it on the outside of the mortar, will not pass, as it ought, through the axis of the mortar, but will give a plane, which if the mortar is laid in, will make the shell deviate to the right or left, according to the degree of falsity in the instrument. If the plane of the level inclines to the left, that is, if the left leg is shorter than the right, the point given on the circumference will be to the right of the true axis point, and, consequently, the shell will go to the left, and *vice versa*. Again, supposing the perpendicular just, and the mortar not properly cast, but having the circumference nearer the centre on the left than on the right side, in this case, the plane passing through the point given by the perpendicular, will not pass through the centre of the shell and true axis of the mortar, but to the right of both, consequently the shell must go to the left of the object it is laid at. Suppose the distance from the centre to the circumference farther from the centre, on the left, than on the right side, then the plane of direction will be given to the left of the real one, consequently, the shell will go to the right. To render all these suppositions perfectly intelligible, we shall exemplify them by the projection of a figure.

See plate II. figs. 1, 2.

It

It may sometimes happen that the errors on the muzzle and base rings, will be on opposite sides; in which case, the shell will cross over from one side of the range to the other. —If the errors were equally distant from the axis, on the circumference of both rings, the shell would go nearly in a parallel direction with the range, an effect that can seldom be expected from the improbability of such a circumstance.

Let A B C D represent a mortar, with its shell d e f g in it, ready to be fired off. If the mortar is laid in the line of its true axis, the shell will range in a true direction: but suppose that the reinforcing ring is not true in reference to its centre d, but that the metal swells from k to h, on the muzzle-ring, in the irregular form k m h, making the radius d m greater than the radius d h, in this case, if the perpendicular is true, it will give a false point, probably about t; and the mortar being laid in this line, viz. in the line r t u, the shell will go to the right of the range lying in the axis line I d H. If the breech-ring 1, 4, 6, was false in the same proportion, it is evident, that the line of direction of the mortar, being parallel to the axis, the shell would still go to the right, and would deviate but little from the true line of direction, going in the line w x z.—If, in this case, a perpendicular was used, having its left leg shorter than its right, and if this short leg were applied on the side k m t, it would increase the error, by throwing the line for directing the mortar still farther towards m, and more remote from the centre than t. Such are the obvious consequences when the metal projects beyond the true extremity of the radius.—We shall now suppose that it falls short of it, viz. that the radius I 8 is shorter than the radius I n of the breech-ring. In this case, supposing the perpendicular true, the point given will be to the left of the real axis, probably about x, from which we have this conclusion, that when  
the



the metal exceeds the length of the radius on one side, and falls short of it on the other, the line of direction given by the perpendicular will be to the left of the mortar's axis; and, therefore, the shell will go to the right of the range. If, in this instance, the longer (supposed) leg of the perpendicular was applied to the false curve 4, 8, 6, and the other to the curve  $r n r$ , one error would, very nearly, correct the other, giving the highest point  $r$ .—The mortar would be in the direction  $r t u$ , and would throw the shell to the right of the range, deviating from the line of direction from the point  $r$ .—From the delineation of these cases, it will be easy to imagine all those that can occur, and to make a necessary allowance for errors in the mortar or instrument.

Let 4, 5, 2, 3, fig. 2. represent a perpendicular, applied to the muzzle-ring of a mortar, as to  $a d c$ , supposed true; the bubble, when at rest, will have its centre over the highest point of the curve, at  $d$ . It is also evident, from inspection, that if the leg 4, 2, is shorter than the leg 5, 3, the instrument must be moved a little to the right, to have the bubble still retained in its position. This defect in the perpendicular must give a false axis, to the right of the real one  $B A$ , and the same holds, *mutatis mutandis*.

Having thus very fully pointed out the causes of error that arise in laying mortars, whether proceeding from a false construction of the perpendicular, or the inaccurate disposition of the metal of the muzzle and breech rings of a mortar, we shall insert a mode of finding the true axis independent of the use of the perpendicular, and by which a mortar may be directed with as great accuracy as when the visual ray enters the eye in a line, having the object and rings in one and the same straight line. This is an essential object to obtain, when it is considered, that from the causes of error detailed above, the effect of bombarding is  
flow

flow and uncertain. It may be urged, that mortars may be cast devoid of the defects enumerated. It is granted that they may : but the mixture of copper, tin, and a little zinc, forming not a very hard combination, will, in use and practice, frequently meet with rubs, shocks, or other accidents, which will produce defects. Let mortars that have been used, or frequently removed from one situation to another, be observed, and their rings will often be found indented, flattened, and deformed. Such are but ill calculated to give a true axis from the external application of instruments, which, probably inaccurate in their construction, may increase the error.

Let a piece of hard wood, not liable to warp, and five inches thick, be fitted exactly to the bore of a mortar, rather entering it with some small degree of difficulty. To prevent its wearing, its circumference may be neatly covered with sheet copper, and two handles may be fixed on it, near the circumference. In the centre of the wood, a slender metal pin is screwed, perpendicular to the surface. This pin must be of such a length, as that at an angle of  $70^{\circ}$ , a perpendicular let fall from its extremity, may not rest on the lower part of the circumference of the mouth of the mortar.  $70^{\circ}$  are mentioned as an angle seldom exceeded for any purpose; and indeed only used to give a shell greater momentum in destroying a building. The pin terminates in a point, to which is fixed a thread, having a  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound weight at its extremity. This pin will be the axis of the mortar produced. The plane passing through the axis of the pin and the thread, must be perpendicular to the horizon, through the axis of the mortar; from which it follows, that if the mortar is moved a little to the right or left, till this plane is brought to bear on the object to be bombarded, the shell, supposing the action of the air on it uniform, will be delivered in a true line of range. Before the shell, with



a fuze in it, cut corresponding with the time of flight, is put into the mortar, it must be laid for the object. Let a person mark with chalk, the two points (one above and one below) on the edge of the mortar's circumference at the muzzle, and in the plane of the pin and line. Let an oblong plate of metal, 1-8th of an inch thick, and 6 inches broad, be provided. Let it be of such a length as to extend from the bed of the mortar, along the chalk marks, beyond the upper part of the circumference. It must be placed on the chalk marks, precisely at right angles to the plane of the mortar's mouth. For this purpose, it will have, on either side, above and below, pieces of brass, an inch broad, and two long, fixed at right angles to its lower edge, where they are in contact with the thickness of metal of the mortar. These lateral projections will support it, steadily, on the chalk marks, in its position at right angles to the muzzle. The circular piece of wood, with its pin and pendant line, is removed to make way for the operation of placing the thin metal plate, called the "Sight Plate." It rests on the mortar bed with its lower end. If the mortar is laid at a high angle, the lower end rests on a piece of wood, such as d b c. It is prevented from sliding in this position, by placing a weight of a few ounces in front.

See plate II. fig. 3.

EXPLANATION.

- a b, The plate of metal in the plane of the true range, supported by d c.
- g f, The elevating screw, having its axis in the plane of the range.
- r s, The cylinder of wood, with the axis pin h u, and its line h n, with a weight n.
- i 3, The visual ray entering the eye through the sight y, and in a plane i t h n, perpendicular to the horizon, and bisecting the bore of the mortar.

When

When this piece of metal is thus properly placed, it is evident that it lies inclined in a plane perpendicular to the horizon, and coinciding with the axis of the mortar. The upper end of the plate may have a sight, consisting of a cross hair and eye-hole adapted to it, such as y. The mortar may be laid by the plane of the pin and thread bearing on the object, but still more accurately by the sight on the metal plate. If, on applying the metal plate, the axis of the mortar is found to be considerably out of the range, on moving it to the right or left, it will be necessary to ascertain fresh chalk marks, as the lateral movement of the mortar may throw the former marks into an oblique direction with the horizon, from the variation of plane in different parts of the platform, arising either from original inaccuracy in laying it, or from concussion, proceeding from the action of the recoil. The above figure is a representation, in section, of a mortar laid by the mode described.—The angle ought to be laid off, previous to laying the mortar; which last operation generally occasions an alteration in the angle.—The final adjustment of the angle may probably alter the direction. This may follow from the cross action of the handspikes, made use of in elevating or depressing. The common mode is to cross two handspikes in front, and to bear on them till the mortar is raised, in order to push in, or draw out the quoin, as may be requisite. The powers of the men at the handspikes can seldom be equal; the consequence of which will be, that the mortar will yield towards that side where there is the least resistance, occasioning an alteration in the direction. A contrivance is, therefore, wanting, by which to give the angle without altering the direction. Small mortars may be elevated by means of screws. The shock in large ones, has been found destructive of these screws. It is not necessary that the screw should be attached to the metal and bed.

It



It may be a separate instrument, and applied occasionally to the mortar in the plane of the chalk marks. When thus used, it will elevate or depress the mortar without altering its direction. Its upper end must be shaped concentric with the circumference of the mortar, and its lower end must work in a shoe, prevented from sliding by a picket driven into the ground. The power of the screw being in proportion to the excess of the circle marked by the winch, in one revolution, over the distance between one spiral and another, it is evident, that labour is saved, as one man will have more power than is necessary for elevating the heaviest mortar in use.

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#### ON THE GUNNER'S QUADRANT.

THE case we have been stating, fully accounts for the deviations to be observed frequently in the projection of shells from mortars. From a varying strength of the same quantity of powder, the range may vary. A difference in the extent of the range may proceed from an error in the quadrant; from an inaccurate application of it; from a false disposition of the gun or mortar; or from combinations of these causes. If a few small charges of powder are well dried, and put into a gun or mortar, laid perfectly horizontal, and occupying the same space in it, the result will be, that the ball or shell, in repeated trials, will not vary materially in extent of range. Let the same piece of ordnance be elevated to an angle, with charges in all respects similar, and it will be found, that though every possible degree of care may have been used in laying off the angle of elevation, the ranges will now differ materially. We shall now endeavour to shew how far this effect may be ascribed to

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the causes enumerated above. The gunner's quadrant is an useful instrument, well known to artificers.

See plate II. fig. 4.

Let  $ABC$  represent a mortar inclined to the horizon  $BD$ , at an angle of  $45^\circ$ , viz. at the angle  $FgD$ , formed by the axis of the mortar  $Fg$ , and the horizontal line  $BD$ . Let  $mFo$  represent the gunner's quadrant, applied to the axis  $Fg$ . Let  $Fn$  represent the index of the quadrant, making an angle of  $45^\circ$  degrees with the axis  $Fg$ . It is evident, that if the line  $Fg$ , with the index  $Fn$  (now represented by  $Fm$ ) in close contact with it, is brought to coincide with the horizontal line  $gD$ , the air bubble in the glass tube on the index will not assume its position of rest in the middle of the tube, till the lines  $Fg$  and  $gD$  coincide, consequently, the line  $gD$ , and the index line  $Fn$ , are parallel and horizontal.—Again, because  $gD$  is parallel to  $Fn$ , the axis  $Fg$  will be a diagonal to them, and therefore, the angle  $FgD$ , formed by the mortar with the horizon, is equal to the angle  $mFn$ , intercepted between  $Fn$ , the index having the air bubble at rest on the middle of it, and the limb of the quadrant  $Fm$  applied to  $Fg$ , the axis of the mortar. In laying mortars to their angles of inclination, the inside is supposed to have been bored parallel to the axis, that is,  $Fg$  is supposed parallel to  $ab$ . The bore may not be a cylinder. If it is, from use or otherwise, wider at the muzzle than towards the chamber, the angle of elevation given by the quadrant will be less than that at which the mortar actually stands. The contrary of this takes place when the bore is narrower at the mouth than farther in.—Let  $bk$  represent the side of the vacant cylinder, perfectly parallel to the axis  $Fg$ , if there is no fault in the quadrant, and it is applied to the two lowest points of the inside, on the line  $bk$ , it will indicate the real angle of inclination.



clination. Again, let  $br$  represent the line of metal, or the inside not parallel to the axis  $Fg$ , it is evident, that the index of the quadrant will be nearer  $m$  on the limb of it, than when the line  $br$  coincides with the line  $bk$ ; for, if the quadrant is supposed applied to  $br$ , and  $br$  is supposed depressed to  $bk$ , the equilibrium of the air bubble being destroyed, it will ascend to the higher end of the tube containing it, and, therefore, to restore this equilibrium, the index of the quadrant must be raised higher on the limb, giving a greater angle than when the leg of the quadrant is applied on  $br$ . The opposite degree of reasoning to this holds, when the line of metal  $br$  is on the other side of the line  $bk$  parallel to the axis  $Fg$ , that is, when the mortar is wider within than at the mouth. A falsity in the construction of the quadrant itself, may occasion an error in the angle of inclination. Suppose, for instance, that the limb of the quadrant is a little bent outwards, in the plane of the limb, as  $mfn$ , it is obvious, that the angle will be given less than the truth; and the contrary effect will happen when the leg is bent somewhat in the opposite direction. The angle at which a mortar is inclined may be taken with a true quadrant in any part of the bore, provided that the long leg of the quadrant is applied in coincidence with the brass of the inside, in a line parallel to the plane, perpendicular to the horizon passing through the axis of the mortar. It frequently happens from the inattention of young artilleryists, that though both quadrant and mortar may be respectively true, still the angle is falsely taken. This happens when the plane of the quadrant forms an angle with, or lies oblique to, the above plane. Let it be supposed, for instance, that the two lowest points on the inside of a mortar are found by the perpendicular, and that the leg of the instrument is applied to these points, it is manifest, that if the mortar is truly bored, and the perpendicular is just, the  
angle

angle will be correctly given by the limb ; but if the end of the leg is in the least degree shifted to either side, the air bubble will ascend to the raised end of the glass tube, and must be lowered on the limb, to restore the equilibrium. This depression of the index diminishes the angle below what it was when the quadrant was properly and justly placed in the mortar. A very exact mode of laying off, or taking the angle of elevation, will be, to apply the leg of the quadrant to the axis pin, mentioned heretofore ; as no method of effecting this can be truer than making use of the axis itself.

ABSTRACT





(To face page 54.)

# ABSTRACT of CASES worked from real Experi the THEORY of ARTILLERY with the PRA

10 INCH MORT

## PRACTICE.

Charge, pounds.	Elevation.	A medium range in yards.	per pendulum.		Weight of shell.	Sand in shell.	Weight of shell and sand.
			Time of flight in seconds.	per calculation.			
1	45°	487	10	9 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	91	2 10 4	93 10 4
2	45	1104	15	14	do	do	do
1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	45	782	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	do	do	do
2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	45	1350	18	16	do	do	do

The calculations were made on the parabolic hypothesis, and the results might be affected by inaccuracies in the platform, mortars, and instruments made use of. The index of the quadrant, particularly, had a loose, unsteady motion round its centre.

5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> INCH ROYA

## PRACTICE.

Charge, ounces.	Elevation.	A medium range in yards.	per pendulum.		Weight of shell.	Sand in shell.	Weight of shell and sand.
			Time of flight in seconds.	per calculation.			
1	45°	51	3	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	14 14	10 10	15 8 10
2	45	90	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	4	do	do	do
3	45	170	6	5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	do	do	do
4	45	320	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	8	do	do	do
5	45	428	10	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	do	do	do
6	45	624	12	11	do	do	do
7	45	786	14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	16	do	do	do
8	45	800	17	19	do	do	do
9	45	1140	19	18 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	do	do	do



# l Experiments, with a view of Comparing the PRACTICE.

## MORTAR.

form, mortars, and instruments made  
use of. The index of the quadrant,  
particularly, had a loose, unsteady mo-  
tion round its centre.

### PRACTICE and THEORY Compared.

Elevation.	Range in yards.		Time of flight in seconds.		Difference of measured and calculated ranges.	Diff. of time of flight <i>per</i> pendulum & calculation.
	Measured range.	Calculated range.	<i>per</i> pendulum.	<i>per</i> calculation.		
60° 12''	372	420	12	12	48	
57 30	1013	1001	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	12	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
57 46	620	705	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	85	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
59 30	1159	1181	21	20	22	1

## ROYAL.

### PRACTICE and THEORY Compared.

Elevation.	Range in yards.		Time of flight in seconds.		Difference of measured and calculated ranges.	Diff. of time of flight <i>per</i> pendulum & calculation.
	Measured range.	Calculated range.	<i>per</i> pendulum.	<i>per</i> calculation.		
53° 45''	44	48	4	3 $\frac{1}{8}$	4	7 $\frac{1}{8}$
38	88	88	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	4		1 $\frac{1}{4}$
38 26	156	165	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	9	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
39 45	270	313	7	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	43	
40 45	406	423	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
51 45	596	585	13	12	11	1
54 19	700	745	16	15 $\frac{1}{8}$	35	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
60 15	765	689	loft	20	76	
24 6	850			9 $\frac{3}{4}$		





RANGES and TIMES of FLIGHT of a 13 Inch SHELL  
at 45°.

Pounds of Powder.	Medium range.	Time of flight <i>per</i> pendulum.	Flight by calcula- tion.	Difference.	Sand in shell.	Weight of shell.	Weight of sand and shell.
1	78	10ft	2		6 10 10	200	206 10 10
2	393	10ft	8 $\frac{1}{2}$				
3	704	13	12	1	- Do. -	-Do.	- Do. -
4	1020	15	14	1			
5	1312	17	16	1			
6	1506	18	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$			
1 $\frac{1}{2}$	142	5	3	2			

It has been asserted by a respectable author, and, from his subsequent reasoning, it is understood he means an angle above 45°, that the angle giving the greatest horizontal range lies between 40° \* and 50°. If this is a fact, and if the above experiments had been made at 47° 30'', it is probable, that the calculated and measured ranges, as also the times of flight, would have coincided still nearer. A probable cause may be assigned for the excess of the range at a few degrees above 45° over that at 45° †.

The

\* See D'Antoni's Treatise on Gun-powder, p. 226.

† After writing this paragraph, I had an opportunity of looking over the article "Projectiles," neatly drawn up, and conveying much new information on this subject, in the Encyclopædia Britannica. It is there stated, that though the greatest horizontal range should be at 45°, yet it is always found to be much lower. As this conclusion is founded on experiment, we must suppose the Italian author's assertions to be unfounded. The little that is here said on them, is written on a supposition of their truth.

The higher the mortar is elevated, the less will be the recoil, and action and reaction being equal, the projectile will be impelled forward with a part of the force which, at a lower angle, would act in the direction of the recoil. It is a well known fact, that a part of the charge is ejected uninflamed, proceeding from a want of sufficient resistance opposed on the side nearest to the muzzle of the piece. There is certainly very respectable authority for supposing the inflammation instantaneous, or, as Mr Robins expresses it, "That the whole of the charge of a piece of ordnance is actually inflamed, and converted into an elastic vapour, before the bullet is sensibly moved from its place." Count Rumford's experiments, to determine the force of the elastic vapour generated by gun-powder, confute this assertion. The Count, with an apparatus very ingeniously constructed, raised a twenty-four pounder, weighing 8081 lbs. avoirdupois, with 18 grains of powder confined, and necessarily all inflamed; from which he deduces, that the expansive force of the generated elastic fluid produced by inflamed gun-powder is more than fifty thousand times the mean pressure of the atmosphere. It may therefore be concluded, that by much the greatest part of charges of powder escapes uninflamed. Shells are found to range farther at an angle of  $70^{\circ}$  than at an angle of  $20^{\circ}$  \*. This militates against the commonly received opinion, that equal distances on either side of  $45^{\circ}$  will give similar ranges †. The real fact we suppose to be, that the recoil at the higher angle acting in a forward direction, in proportion to the check, and the shell, at the same time, resisting the action of the powder more

\* See D'Antoni's Treatise, p. 224.

† By using different charges of powder, it will be found that there is a particular corresponding elevation, affording a greater range than any other. From this it would appear, that fixing the mortars in their beds is a practice that ought to be avoided.



more forcibly as it approaches the perpendicular, time is afforded for the generation of a greater quantity of fluid than would at the lower angle be produced before the projectile quitted the mortar, the consequence of which must be, a greater range at the higher than at the lower angle, as the additional fluid produced operates more forcibly in proportion than the shell resists. An increase of elevation of mortars has been found to increase the initial velocity, when the charges were equal. This does not take place respecting muskets, particularly when the object and musket are in the same horizontal plane. A rifled carabine bullet, having an initial velocity of 1956 feet, ranged, at  $15^{\circ}$ , 901; at  $24^{\circ} 20''$ , 938; and at  $45^{\circ}$ , 895 yards only. The greatest range of a musket will be modified by its direction, by the diameter and density of the ball, by the density of the air, and by the difference there may be between the horizontal planes of the object and musket. The maximum of range diminishes at a few degrees above  $45^{\circ}$ , and the reasons stated will probably account for its not being precisely at the middle angle. The experiments were made as follows: For instance, a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inch royal was put at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$  with one ounce of powder. The range was found, and also the time of flight, by a pendulum, 39.1 from the point of suspension to the centre of the ball. This pendulum vibrated seconds. A few experiments of this kind were made, which afforded a medium range. With the same quantity of powder, any other angle was used. Its range and time of flight were measured, and also calculated, and the difference between the measured and calculated ranges and times of flight, is inserted in the 6th and 7th columns. The powder used was not of a very equal quality. The platform had been a good deal shook by much previous practice, and the quadrant made use of was not perfectly accurate. The shells also had (a cause of error but too frequent) too much windage.

From

From these causes, the result is not so accurate as it might otherwise have been.

---

**A Proposed Mode of making a SHELL Explode on coming in contact with the Ground.**

SUPPOSING that fuzes were rendered uniform in their times of burning; that mortars and guns had no errors of metal on the in or outside; and that instruments made use of were perfectly accurate in their construction; still the varying strength of the same quantity of powder will occasion a difference in the time of flight, that will produce an inaccurate explosion of the shell. Let us suppose, for instance, that the time of flight given by a certain quantity of powder is 20 seconds. If the next charge should be of a stronger quality, the time of flight will be increased, the consequence of which will be, that the shell will explode before it arrives at the object to be destroyed. Let us suppose, again, that the third charge will be of a weaker quality; in this case, the time of flight will be less, and the fuze being cut on a supposition of uniformity in the action of the powder, the shell will necessarily be buried in the ground before it explodes. This makes it obvious, that a contrivance is wanting that will make a shell burst at the instant of touching the ground. The following proposed mode has not as yet been brought to the test of experiment, but all to whom it has been explained seem to think that it will be successful.

See plate II. figs. 5, 6, 7.

Let 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, represent a shell at the instant of its touching the ground, after falling through the last part of its described curve B C.



a b, represents an empty cylinder of iron, one side of which projects beyond the shell to c, and the end, a b, is drawn firmly into the empty fuze R, driven into the fuze-hole, and the cylinder a b, a b, coincides with, and fills up, exactly, the empty space 1, 1, 1, 1, when the shell is ready for delivery.

The shell, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, has its greatest thickness of metal on the fuze-hole side, which by the action of gravity will, in descending, be nearest to the ground.

The cylinder a b is  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch in thickness; and is charged with a slow burning fuze composition, driven into it by means of a drift, of which 13, 14, in figure, is a section.

The cylinder charged with composition, exactly fits the empty cylinder of the fuze, into which it is drawn firmly before the shell is discharged.

g h, is a piece of wood fixed on the projecting shank of the cylinder, by a few turns of a male and female screw, and its use is, on striking against the ground, to dislodge the cylinder a b from the empty fuze 1, 1; for unless this piece of wood was fixed on c, the projecting shank of the cylinder, it would enter the ground, from being sharp, without dislodging the charged cylinder, and, consequently, the intended effect would be lost.

The thickness of metal at 6, 4, 6, 3, should be to the thickness of metal on the opposite side, rather more than as 2 to 1, in order that the fuze-hole side may come first to the ground, on which the whole success of the invention depends.

The explosion of the powder in the chamber of the mortar will inflame the composition in the cylinder, and a few strands of quick-match may be tied round the shank of the projecting side of the cylinder, to ensure the communication

H

of

of the flame to the loose powder in the bowl of the fuze, and, consequently, to the composition in the cylinder.

The shank of the projecting side of the cylinder is tied firmly, with a piece of packthread, to the neck of the fuze, as represented at 4, 7, 3. The packthread, thus tied, prevents the end a b of the cylinder from being dislodged from the end 1, 1, of the fuze, by the shock of the explosion in the discharge of the shell from the mortar. Tying the projecting shank thus to the fuze, will not impede the effect to be produced by the invention, as the burning of the composition in the cylinder will consume the packthread in a few moments after the shell has been delivered, and after the thread has answered the purpose for which it was intended.

Previous to putting the loose mealed powder into the bowl of the fuze, in order to catch fire and inflame the composition, a little soap or putty should be pressed between the cylinder and inside of the fuze, should they not coincide exactly. After the fuze is driven, the cylinder may be drawn into it and fixed, or it may be drawn into its place in the fuze, before the fuze is driven. The soap or putty, pressed between the cylinder and the fuze, prevents the scoriæ, arising from the burning of the composition, from communicating with the powder in the shell, by passing to it between the cylinder and the inside of the fuze. The inside of the bottom of the fuze, and the outside of the bottom of the cylinder, might be adapted to each other by a single turn of a male and female screw. This single turn would yield to the action of the stroke against the ground, and would prevent the possibility of the entrance of scoriæ into the shell. This simple apparatus being thus adjusted, the shell is discharged. On arriving at the vertex of its curve, the action of gravity will destroy the rotatory motion round the axis, and incline the fuze-hole side towards the ground. The ball g h, fixed  
on



on the shank of the cylinder projecting beyond the shell, on meeting with resistance from the ground, at 12, 12, will impel the inflamed cylinder into the empty space of the shell, and the charge of powder in the shell will be exploded, and burst it in contact with the ground. The figure represents the shell at the ground, with the cylinder driven into it, by the stroke on the projecting shank against the ground. The cylinder is perforated full of small holes, that the flame may emit itself through them, and act the more readily on the powder in the shell.—The ball on the shank may be less than that in the figure. 9, 10, a section of a setter for driving the fuze, after the cylinder is drawn into it. 13, 14, a section of a composition-driver, tipped with copper, for driving and fixing the composition in the cylinder.

See plate II. fig. 5, 6, 7.

Shells might probably be made to burst on water, by substituting a flat board, 3 or 4 inches in diameter, in lieu of the ball fixed on the projecting shank.

Such is this simple contrivance, calculated to obviate the inaccuracy in the explosion of shells, arising from the unequal strength of powder principally, and, in some degree, from the other causes of error enumerated.

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THE following useful instrument has been suggested by Alexander Irving, Esq; Advocate, and First Lieutenant in the Company. His own description and delineation of it are as follow :

See plate II. fig. 8.

Breadth of the aperture 1 inch, length 1. 5, which is divided by a scale into 18 parts, each of which, when the  
length

length of gun \* is made radius, will be equal to 5 minutes. The nonius dividing plate, which is fixed to the horizontal moveable wire, being divided into 5 parts, which, altogether, are equal to 4 divisions of the scale, will give a division into minutes.

The two feet of the instrument rest upon the upper part of one of the muzzle mouldings of the gun, on which it is kept by a steel spring. The spirit-level must be parallel to a line joining the feet, and at right angles to the vertical wire.

The view of the back of the instrument will shew the mode in which the nonius and horizontal wire is raised and lowered, by means of a screw.

The aperture is bisected vertically by a black wire, which is cut at right angles by the horizontal one. The latter, however, must not be a wire, but a thin plate, set edge-ways, that it may bear being raised and lowered. When it arrives at the opposite side of the instrument, it is flattened in the contrary direction, and kept close to the limb of the instrument by a slip of metal, which, however, allows it to move freely up and down.

We shall now describe the mode of applying it.

It often happens, when the object aimed at is near, and when it is even as far off as 400 yards, that (though the real angle in the latter case may amount to half a degree) the line of metal, or the visual line, may terminate on the ground, short of the object, in order that it may be hit and destroyed. In this case, the gun is said to carry high. Again, it may happen, that in order, with another gun, to hit the same object, it will be found necessary to lay the gun above the object. In this case, the gun is said to carry low. If the shots, in both cases, are supposed to hit the object aimed at, these respective guns should be pointed in the same manner,

\* This calculation can only apply to the ordinary light six pounder.



manner, to be equally successful in succeeding shots. A quadrant will certainly effect this ; but this instrument may not be always in readiness, and time often cannot be spared for its accurate application. Without a quadrant, or some other instrument, it will be uncertain whether the guns are or are not pointed precisely in the same manner, when the visual ray or line does not bear on the object. The instrument invented by Mr Irving obviates this difficulty, as the horizontal wire can be depressed or elevated, till its intersection with the perpendicular one cuts some point on the object, and by bringing the intersecting point on the same part of the object in all succeeding shots, the gun will always be similarly pointed, and the effect, *ceteris paribus*, adequate. The angle of elevation of field-pieces seldom exceeding a degree and a half in field use, the instrument is capable of ascertaining that quantity, and might be rendered capable of comprehending a greater angle, by being made higher.

If, when the gun is laid level, the nonius is brought to 60'' on the scale, the line passing from the object over the wire to the eye, will be parallel to the axis of a fix-pounder, to which the instrument is adapted.—The angle, therefore, may be taken or laid off, by reckoning from 60'' as an initial point, when the elevation or depression of the horizontal wire, brought to cut the object, marks exactly that of the gun. The essential use of this instrument, however, is to ascertain accurately what the eye alone could not effect, viz. ‘ that guns, where a repetition of effect is wanted, shall “ be pointed precisely in the same manner.”

the first of these is the fact that the  
 second is the fact that the third is the fact  
 that the fourth is the fact that the fifth is the fact

that the sixth is the fact that the seventh is the fact  
 that the eighth is the fact that the ninth is the fact  
 that the tenth is the fact that the eleventh is the fact

that the twelfth is the fact that the thirteenth is the fact  
 that the fourteenth is the fact that the fifteenth is the fact  
 that the sixteenth is the fact that the seventeenth is the fact

that the eighteenth is the fact that the nineteenth is the fact  
 that the twentieth is the fact that the twenty-first is the fact  
 that the twenty-second is the fact that the twenty-third is the fact

that the twenty-fourth is the fact that the twenty-fifth is the fact  
 that the twenty-sixth is the fact that the twenty-seventh is the fact  
 that the twenty-eighth is the fact that the twenty-ninth is the fact

that the thirtieth is the fact that the thirty-first is the fact  
 that the thirty-second is the fact that the thirty-third is the fact  
 that the thirty-fourth is the fact that the thirty-fifth is the fact

that the thirty-sixth is the fact that the thirty-seventh is the fact  
 that the thirty-eighth is the fact that the thirty-ninth is the fact  
 that the fortieth is the fact that the forty-first is the fact



## A P P E N D I X.

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### ON THE SERVICE OF ARTILLERY IN THE FIELD.

GUNS are not to be advanced loaded; and on giving the word "Load," the gun is to be untrucked.

When a gun is moving on at a quick rate, previous to halting, the word "Slow March," is to be given, to retard gradually the velocity, and thus prevent the dragrope men from being hurt.

The portfires are cut out when the guns are advanced or retreated in quick time. When in slow time, they may remain lighted.

When a sponge is wetted, it must be put into the sponge cap, in order to squeeze the water equally over its circumference.

He who serves the vent must wet his thumb-stall in some degree, and try the vent with a wire; the gun must then be tried with a wadhook, and immediately afterwards spunged out.

---

#### Attached to a LIGHT SIX-POUNDER.

##### Right Side-Box.

Shot fixed to powder,				
Round,	-	-	-	8
Cafe,	-	-	-	8
Tube-boxes of 90 tubes,	-		-	2
			Portfires,	

Portfires,	-	-	-	-	8
Portfire-sticks,	-	-	-	-	2

Left Side-Box.

Shot fixed to powder,					
Round,	-	-	-	-	8
Case,	-	-	-	-	8
Portfires,	-	-	-	-	8
Tacks for repairing spunges,	-	-	-	-	100
Spare walhers,	-	-	-	-	2
Lynch-pins,	-	-	-	-	2
Wires,	-	-	-	-	2
A tarred marlin,	-	-	-	-	1

For Two Guns.

Pincers,	-	-	-	1
Chifel,	-	-	-	1
Knife,	-	-	-	1
Sciffars,	-	-	-	1
Marlinspike,	-	-	-	1

Locker under the Gun.

Vent-punches,	-	-	-	3
Claw hammer,	-	-	-	1
Spring-spikes,	-	-	-	1
Common ditto,	-	-	-	1

Fore Limber-Box.

Shot fixed to powder,					
Round,	-	-	-	-	6
Case,	-	-	-	-	6

Flannel cartridges of forts.

Slow-match,—a roll.

Hind Limber-Box.

Shot fixed to powder,					
Round,	-	-	-	-	6
Case,	-	-	-	-	6

Flannel



Flannel cartridges of different sizes,	
Portfires,	- - - 30
A sheepskin,	
Cartouches of leather,	- - - 2

Locker under the Limber.

A quantity of rope,	
Blocks secured with iron, and of a middling size,	4

Behind the Axletree.

Spades,	- - - 2
Pick-axe,	- - - 1
Hand-bill,	- - - 1
Felling-axe,	- - - 1

Leather bucket suspended from the breast transom.

A set of mens harness is attached under the carriage.

A set of dragropes is carried on the limber, and another under the limber.

Side-Arms.

Right side of the Gun.

Spunges,	- - - 2
Ladles,	- - - 1

Left Side.

Traversing handspike,	- - - 1
Crooked ditto,	- - - 1
Wadhook,	- - - 1

Between the Cheeks.

Fork levers,	- - - 2
Linstock on the left cheek.	

Tackles.

Ropes for lashing on the various articles.

Intrenching Tools.

Of forts,	- - - 2
Fixed to the axletree.	

Drums in the Field.

To advance,	-	-	Tap.
To begin firing,	-	-	Preparative.
To cease firing,	-	-	General.
To change round,	-	-	Short roll.
To retreat,	-	-	
Flam,	-	-	Unhook,
Long roll,	-	-	Limber up.

RANGES of a LIGHT SIX-POUNDER with Round.

Weight of Powder.		Elevation.		Range first Graze.
Lbs.	Oz.	Deg.	Min	Yards.
1	8	0°	15''	449
		0	45	556
		1	00	649
		1	15	709
		1	30	755
		1	45	836
		2	00	950

N. B. Medium range inserted, between results in Europe and India.



## No I.

Practice with a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  Inch Howitzer.

Recoil.	Length of Fuze.	Weight of Powder.	Elevation.	Grazes.		Extreme Range.	Remarks.
				1st.	2d.		
Ft. In.	Inch.	lb. oz. dr.	Deg.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	
			P. B.	61	120	560	
			$\frac{1}{4}$	76	170	614	
			$\frac{3}{4}$	90	281	606	
	2	0 8 0	$1\frac{1}{2}$	101	300	897	Fuze burnt
			2	182	500	842	at 550 yds.
			P. B.	95	316	740	Fuze burnt
	$2\frac{5}{16}$		$1\frac{1}{4}$	210	285	770	at 380 yds.
			$1\frac{3}{4}$	254	390	872	
			2	230	378	780	
	3		$2\frac{1}{2}$	310	409	950	
		0 12 0	$2\frac{5}{8}$	250	365	820	
			$3\frac{1}{2}$	281	400	781	
			$3\frac{3}{4}$	278	475	820	
1 2			4	300	500	908	
1 $2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{6}{16}$		$4\frac{1}{2}$	346	500	800	
1 $11\frac{1}{2}$			$4\frac{1}{2}$	390	540	917	
1 9			$4\frac{1}{2}$	335	482	900	
2 4		0 13 0	$4\frac{1}{2}$	500	580	870	
2 5			$4\frac{1}{2}$	490	660	850	
1 6				394	490	700	
1 $2\frac{1}{2}$				350	432	790	
1 0	$3\frac{5}{16}$	0 12 0	5	290	500	690	
1 $2\frac{1}{2}$				437	680	750	
1 $0\frac{1}{2}$				370	530	790	
1 7		0 13 0	$5\frac{1}{2}$	580	650	890	
2 3							

P. B. means point blank.

Howitzer

# Howitzer Practice continued.

Recoil.	Length of Fuze.	Weight of Powder.	Elevation.	Grazes.		Extreme Range.	Remarks.
				1ft.	2d.		
Ft. In.	Inch.	lb. oz. dr.	Deo.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	
2 0	}	}	5½	480	617	740	{ Shells lost
1 10				491	623	810	
1 3½				410	642	890	
1 5½				397	610	935	
1 4½			310	580	670		
1 0			400	550	910		
2 3			700	850			
2 4			520	640			
2 6			445	543	1110		
2 7			200	320	900		
2 6	} 2 0	} 1 0 0	P. B Do.	350	433	920	
2 8				323	408	860	
4 8			250	380	1060		
3 11			150	270	950		
2 4½			300	420	800		
2 8			230	420	660		
2 10			160	240	920		
2 2			640	675	890		
2 5			593	645	700		
2 2			360	610	730		
1 4	335	455	780				
1 5		550	740				
1 4		200	360	670			
1 5		152	300	710			

Howitzer



# Howitzer Practice Continued.

Recoil.	Length of Fuze.	Weight of Powder.	Elevation.	Grazes.			Extreme Range.
				1st.	2d.	3d.	
Ft. In.	Inch.	lb. oz. dr.	Deg	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yards.
4 3	2	1 8 0	2	510	980	1070	1175
4 5				520	980	1060	1150
4 5			5	620	860	930	1400
4 0				550	720	778	
3 11			12	1006	1095	1200	1390
4 2				1630	1680		1850
6 2			2	680	760	840	1650
6 4				662	855	1160	1499
8 0	2 $\frac{5}{8}$	2 4 0	5	820	840	970	Shell broke
7 6				1160	Shell	loft	
7 4				1130	1397	1540	
7 6				1708			1708
7 8			12	1720			1720
7 1				1730			1730
4 6				Shell	loft		
3 6			2	390	560	700	1270
3 8		1 8 0		410	602	830	1230
2 1			P. B.	105	490	610	807
2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$				129	403	480	940
2 2			$\frac{1}{4}$	110	400	530	660
2 3			$\frac{1}{2}$	230	270	473	820
2 2			$\frac{3}{4}$	140	220	360	840
2 3			1	170	220	418	1050
2 6			$\frac{1}{4}$	300	480	615	920
2 8	2		$\frac{1}{2}$	320	419	595	920
2 0				381	527	671	1000
2 0			2	383	516		1010
2 3				227	310	404	999
3 6		1 8 0		480	Thro' the Target and in Butt.		
3 8			2 $\frac{1}{4}$	500	700	Shell	loft
3 6				270	470	620	980
4 0			2 $\frac{1}{2}$	360	470	640	960
3 6		1 0 0	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	420	480	720	810
2 8			3	310	480	600	1070

Howitzer

# Howitzer Practice Continued.

Length of Fuze.	Elevation.	Weight of Powder.		Grazes.			Extreme Range.
		Heavy 5½ Inch Howit.	Light 5½ Inch Howit.	1ft.	2d.	3d.	
Inch.	Deg.	lb. oz. dr.	lb. oz. dr.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.
2	3¼	1 0 0		300	420	592	850
	3½			350	424	562	1017
	3¾			490	665	837	905
	4			431	640	720	920
	4¼			582	730	870	1002
	4½			546	597	728	1000
	4¾			530	532	620	1140
	5			502	506	830	900
	5¼			480	530	680	1160
	5½			560	750	810	960
	5¾			760	800	920	1150
	6			810	970	1010	1030
	6¼			557	850	870	1060
	6½			470	650	755	1017
	6¾			695	860	930	
1	2	0	5 8	120	250	340	500
2 5/10	6	1 0 0	0 5 8	620	850	920	1017
2 9/10	2	0	5 8	120	240	310	420
2 7/10	7	1 0 0	0 5 8	860	1010	1040	1100
1 2/10	5	0	5 8	335	380	440	1340
2	2	2 0 0	0 5 8	315	673	850	1017
1 1/10	5	0	5 8	228	376	400	510
1 9/10	2	2 0 0	0 5 8	410	670	1030	1440
1 3/10	12	0	5 8	550	615	640	680

Howitzer



## Howitzer Practice Continued.

Length of Fuze.	Elevation.	Weight of Powder.		Grazes.			Extreme Range.
		Heavy 5½ Inch Howit.	Light 5½ Inch Howit.	1st	d.	3d	
Inch.	Deg	lb. oz. dr.	lb. oz. dr.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Y s.
2	3	2 0 0		790	870	1150	lost.
1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	12		0 5 8	495			lost.
2 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	4	2 0 0		770	890	960	1420
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	2		0 8 0	290	400		1500
2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5	2 0 0		990	1000	1300	1580
1	2		0 8 0	227	380	500	740
1 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	1½	2 0 0		380	550	780	1340
1 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5		0 8 0	320	390	420	760
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	1	2 0 0		320	500	790	th. br.
1	5		0 8 0	440	590	670	880
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	½	2 0 0		not	fired		
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	½	2 0 0		480	618	700	1240
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	12		0 8 0	800	880	930	930
1	P. B.	2 0 0		2 5	700	830	1500
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	12		0 8 0	760	770	790	790
2	2½	2 0 0		714	880	1030	1430
1 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	2		0 11 0	318	400	510	880
1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	3	2 0 0		630	840	920	1450
1 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	2		0 11 0	400	655	890	1025
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	3½	2 0 0		925	1040	1200	1657
2	5		0 11 0	670	830	970	lost.
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	4	2 0 0		815	840	920	1520
2	5		0 11 0	500	768	790	800
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	4½	2 0 0		1050	1190	1290	1590
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	12		0 11 0	960	1050	1070	1090
2 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5½	2 0 0		990	1150		lost.
1 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	12		0 11 0	990	1070		1110
2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	½	2 0 0		550	1140		1500
2	2		1 0 0	380	410		1150
1 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5	1 0 0		580	670		lost.
1 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5		1 0 0	1025	1200		1590
2	½	3 0 0		250	810		broke.
1 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>10</sub>	5		1 0 0	300	530		1020

## Howitzer Practice Continued.

Length of Fuze.	Elevation.	Weight of Powder, and Nature.		Grazes.			Extreme Range.
		Heavy 5½ Inch Howit.	Light 5½ Inch Howit.	1ft.	2d.	3d.	
Inches.	Deg.	lb. oz. dr.	lb. oz. dr.	Yds	Yds	Yds.	Yds.
2	4	1 0 0		480	700	890	1420
	2½	2 0 0		670	880	1020	1480
	3		1 0 0	470	760	890	1040
2 4/10	2½	3 0 0		620	878	1550	1550
	5		1 0 0	670	867	1060	1390
	3	3 0 0		1050	1111	1260	1590
2 6/10	5½		1 0 0	1060	1090	1200	1400
	4	1 0 0		478	740	810	1000
	2½		0 11 0	350	490	600	800
2 4/10	4¼	1 0 0		540	580	780	1020
	2¾		0 11 0	425	810	820	820
1 6/10	3½	2 0 0		700	870	970	1300
1 5/10	2		0 11 0	340	580	780	1200
1 9/10	3	3 0 0		880	1000	1400	1770
	4¾		1 0 0	625	890	100	1300
1 3/10	5½	0 8 0		340	420		500
	5½		0 8 0	425	600		800
1 4/10	3	0 11 0		350	470		920
	3		0 11 0	410	500		990
1 2/10	7	1 0 0		740	930		1100
	7		1 0 0	920	1060		1440
2	8	1 2 15		870	1070		1350
	8		1 0 0	1035			1499

No.



No. II.

EXPERIMENT with a SIX-POUNDER, Middling Field-Ser-vice GUN.

Recoil.		Elevation.	Weight of Powder.	Shot Grazed.			Extreme Range.
				1ft.	2d.	3d.	
Ft.	In.	Deg.	lb. oz. d.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yards.
8	4	P. B.	1 8 0	200	500	740	1475
4	7	$0\frac{1}{2}$		409	720	850	
4	11	$0\frac{1}{4}$ D.					
4	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$0\frac{1}{2}$ D.		160	403	598	
4	8	$0\frac{1}{4}$ E.		170	360	730	
4	7	P. B.		220	560	877	
4	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$0\frac{1}{4}$ E.		38	690	1120	
4	6	P. B.		365	1010	1040	
4	7			269	645	890	
7	0	$0\frac{1}{4}$ E.		351	650	870	
5	4	$0\frac{1}{4}$ D.		400	560	790	
5	$6\frac{1}{2}$	P. B.		360	710	960	
4	10	$0\frac{1}{4}$ E.		300	650	960	
4	5	$0\frac{1}{4}$		410	900	1230	
5	4	$0\frac{1}{2}$		415	670	700	
5	8	$0\frac{1}{2}$		450	790		
7	7	$0\frac{3}{4}$		495	770	1106	
6	7	1		640	990	1100	
5	10	$1\frac{1}{4}$		703	790	990	
5	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$		615	715	950	
6	0	$1\frac{3}{4}$		880	920	1010	
7	9	2		704	970	1007	1400
7	9	$2\frac{1}{4}$		850	1190		2000
5	9	$2\frac{1}{2}$		900	1180	1180	1750
5	7	$2\frac{3}{4}$		985	1160	1230	
5	8	3		930	1130	1240	

K

N. B.

N. B. We have inserted practice and experiments in Europe, in preference to those of India, as there is a considerable difference in the ranges yielded by the same quantities and qualities of powder, owing, it is probable, to the difference in the density of the air.

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#### DIRECTIONS relative to LIGHT FIELD-PIECES on Service.

The wheels of guns and waggons are to be taken off after a march. The axletrees are to be greased, and repairs, if wanted, to be given.

The wheels and axles are to be examined once in ten days; and when the guns are at rest, the naves of the wheels must be covered, to prevent the heat of the sun from affecting them.

The cap-squares must always be kept well secured by the eye-bolt keys.

The elevation screws must be always kept working easily, by being well oiled. To prevent bending, they should never be screwed higher than half up the brass box.

The shoes under the trail must be occasionally examined, being apt to become thin from use.

The hole in the trail-tranform, and the pintail, should be greased previous to marching.

If, on the march, the different tackles and ropes get wet, they must be well dried before they are put in the lockers.

The tarpaulins must be occasionally tarred, and the side-arm straps oiled from time to time.

The man harness and spare dragropes must be lashed, so as not to drag along the ground.

After a march, or field-day, the gun and empty cylinder must be well washed. The gun must be depressed, or laid under metal, after being washed.

When



When the quantity of ammunition with the gun is small, it may be put into the limber box.

The hasps of the limber boxes are to be towards the horse; and the boxes should be so placed as to counteract, as much as possible, the weight of the trail of the gun.

The tow should be put loosely and slightly round ammunition packed in the boxes, that it may, with ease, be taken off when the shot is wanted.

The elevation screw should be covered over with flannel, in marching, in order that it may not be clogged by mud.

The men must be stationed at the gun according to their respective abilities.

Care must be taken that the punches are well fitted to the size of the vents.

A hammer, a spike, and a punch, must always be kept in the gun locker.

The sponges must be kept well coated, so as to sponge out the bottom of the empty cylinder well.

The axletrees of the gun must be kept in a line with the front rank, that the artillery men may not be wounded by the fire of the infantry.

The guns must always be brought up to the same ground, to prevent their shaking the troop by their explosion.

Before the infantry commences firing, the gun may advance two paces, in order to fire obliquely on the enemy's line. They will afterwards fall into their proper intervals.

The utmost care must be used to prevent hurry, always too apt to produce confusion.

Previous to action, the officer must examine his gun, and try if the vent is clean\*.

When the enemy is forming behind a hill, round shot should be thrown among them, with a small quantity of powder, and a great elevation.

As

\* Two guns were useless at the battle of Minden, by not attending to these matters.

As he advances, round shot may be fired obliquely at his ranks, ricochet, or making them hop once or twice before they take the line.

From 600 to 350 yards, round shot may be fired, at one degree, or rather more, of elevation, reduced gradually to half a degree, or less, if the gun is hot.

Cafe-shot, fired at the centre of the line, must now be fired.

The gun must be loaded in a regular and uniform manner, and the wads must be rammed with equal force. A neglect in this point produces great irregularity of effect, particularly when the guns are depressed.

In very quick firing, few of the shot tell; the gun being worked with too much precipitation, regularity of loading and laying will not be attended to.

The frequency of firing should be regulated by the certainty of doing execution.

When, however, grape is used, with a round over it, against an enemy very near, the quickest possible firing may take place.

In this case, time must be afforded to the detachment to have recourse to their pikes, to meet the charge.

Cafe-shot, at the distance of 170 yards, when double loaded, has a decided superiority, in effect, over musketry. At this distance, 1-8th part of the shot is found to have effect.

The balls of cafe-shot should be ranged regularly, as they will then diverge less.

In firing round shot, the gun will be pointed well each time, and the requisite elevation will be attended to. The instrument described in the end of Part Second of this pamphlet, will be found serviceable, and ready for this purpose.

Grape-shot may be fired as fast as possible, and to prevent accidents, the person who sends home the charge, is to give the word "Ready," on stepping back into his position.

Every



Every shot should be made to tell. When they fly over the heads of the enemy, the consequence will be, that one party becomes encouraged, and the other discouraged.

After discharging the gun, it is to be immediately drawn forward to its original position, over the recoiled space.

When a gun is to be drawn across a ditch, or up a steep hill, the dragropes will be used, to assist the horse. If the sides of the ditch are very steep, the gun is to be unlimbered, and dragged over the ditch, as directed in describing that useful species of gun-exercise.

In firing, the limber is to be posted at a short distance, in the rear of the gun, and the other horses, in charge of steady careful people, will be stationed with the ammunition-waggons.

In pursuit, the guns will keep close in the rear of the troops, to be in readiness to check a rallying enemy, and to give time to the battalion to form in the rear, ready for re-acting.

When the gun moves over rough ground, the elevation-screw will be apt to run down, and much time may be lost in screwing up again. To prevent this, whenever the gun is to move, let the ring at the end of the small chain, fixed to the left cheek of the gun-carriage, be put over one of the projecting handles of the horn-place which works the screw. When firing recommences, the ring is to be slipped off.

When guns retreat in the rear of a battalion, they should be loaded, to stop the progress of the enemy. When, on the contrary, the battalion is between the guns and the enemy, the guns should be discharged, to prevent accidents from arising. It should be a regulation not to be deviated from, (except in passing a bridge or narrow defile), never to advance quick with loaded guns, as the lives of 12 men will be endangered.

In

In quick firing with grape-shot, he who sponges must give the word "Fire," and is not to step out to reload, till he sees the explosion. He must send his sponge well home, and turn it, at least twice, to disengage any hanging fire.

When the gun is pointed, the person pointing will give the word, that he may himself be clear of the recoil.

The person who is to put in the cartridge, will keep it behind the wheel till he sees the sponge withdrawn.

The person serving the vent is furnished with a thumb-stalk, having a piece of soft thick leather on it. The thumb-stalk is fitted to his left thumb. It enables him to serve the vent closely, and to wipe off the drops of burning composition resting, after firing, on the vent-field. The thumb-stalk is to be damped from time to time.

The person who brings the cartridge from the cartouch, will carry it on the left side, under his coat, till he delivers it to him who puts it into the piece.

The person who fires, holds his portfire under the centre transom, and when he fires, he is not to raise his hand with a wide circular movement, but on the shortest line possible, leading to the tube in the vent.

The person serving the vent will not withdraw his thumb, till he sees numbers 7 and 8 clear of the gun in their respective positions.

Those who carry the cartouches will be careful in keeping them shut, and will carry the spare portfires in their hands.

The dragropes are never to be fixed in firing, lest the recoil should drag down the men, and hurt them.

It should be remembered, that a small gun will recoil, on even ground, above 7 feet.

He who is in charge of the spare portfire-stick, will always have a portfire ready fixed in it.

The



The portfire is to be lighted under the traversing hand-spike, and is not to be handed, lighted, across the cheeks, lest it should blow up the tube-box.

The sponge must be wetted often, and after half a dozen of shots, the wadhook should be introduced, to clear out any bottoms of cartridges that may have lodged in the cylinder.

If a tube stick in the vent, the person who tubes must immediately say, "Cease loading, a tube sticks."

The punch, for clearing the vent, and hammer, should be attached by a string, that they may be ready together when wanted.

Should the gun go off before the person who tubes has time to step clear of the wheel, he must instantly throw himself across the locker-board.

F I N I S.

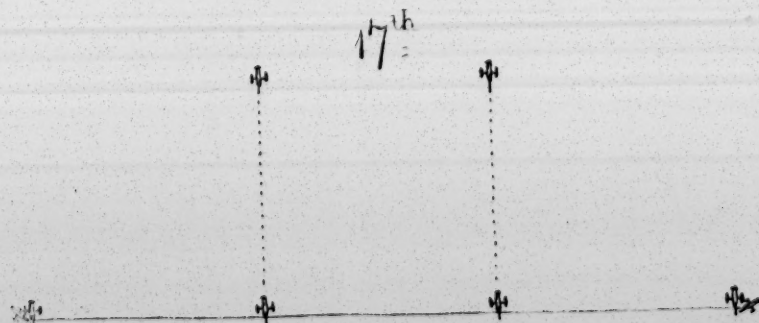
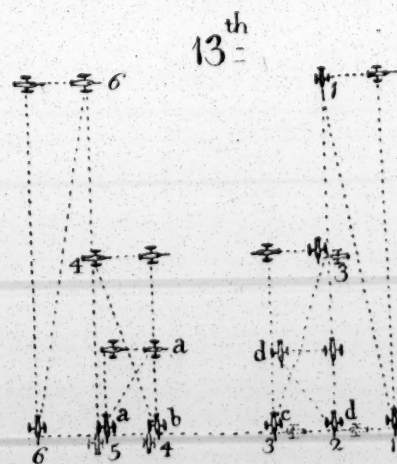
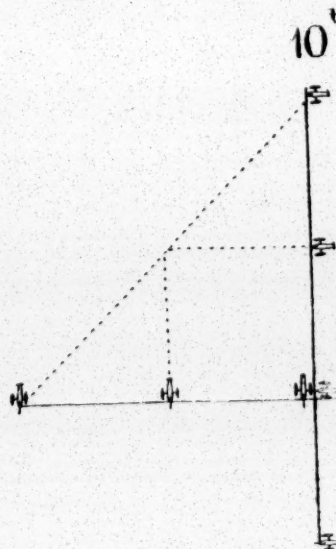
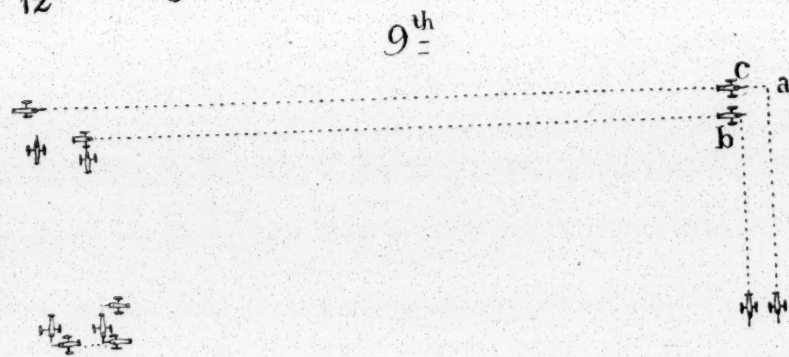
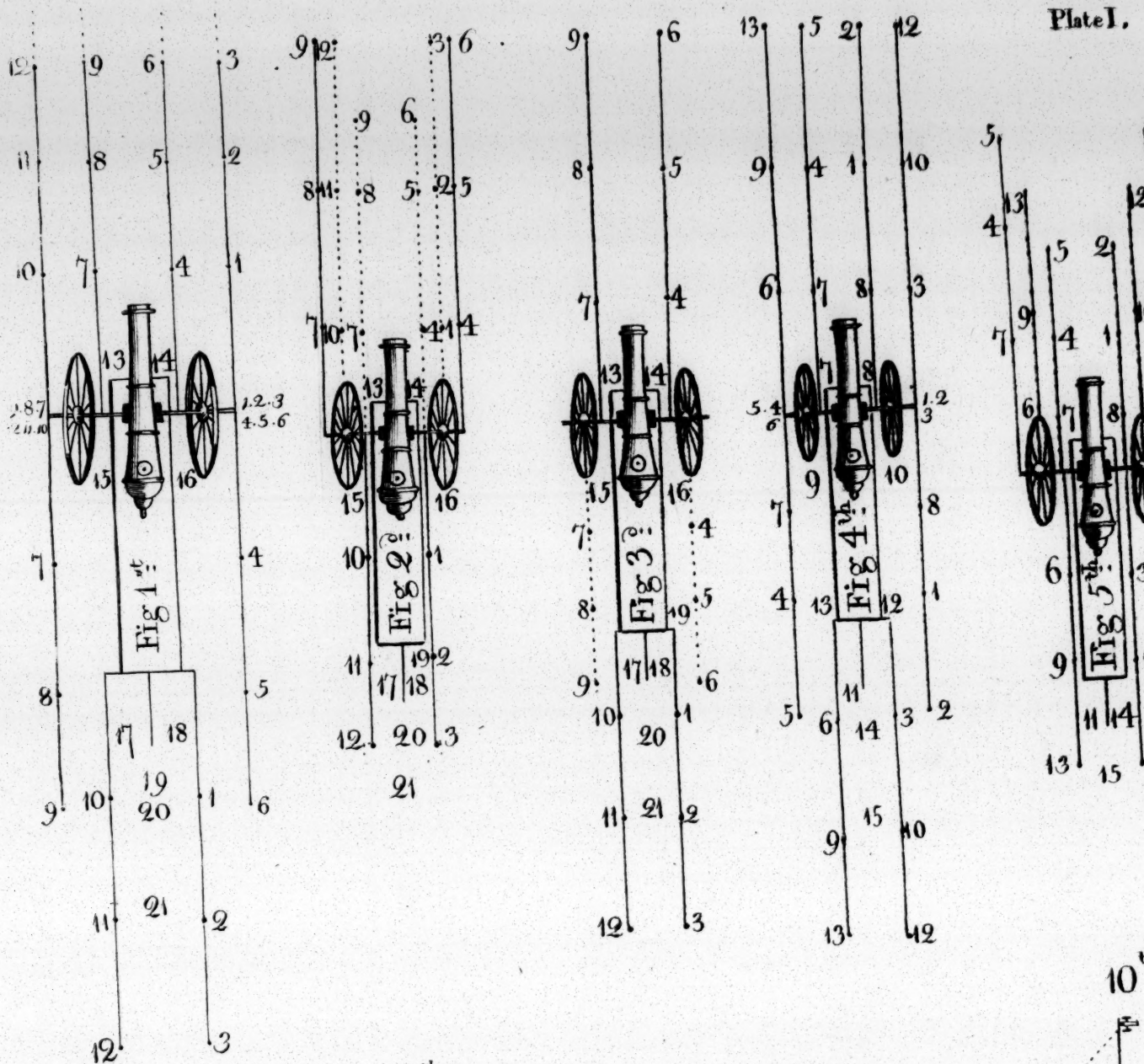




Plate I.

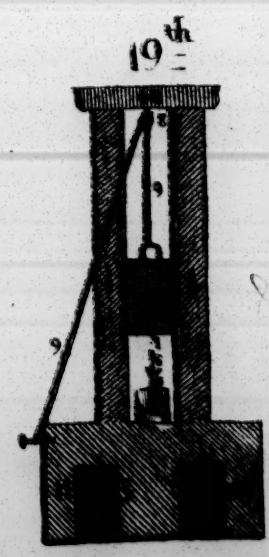
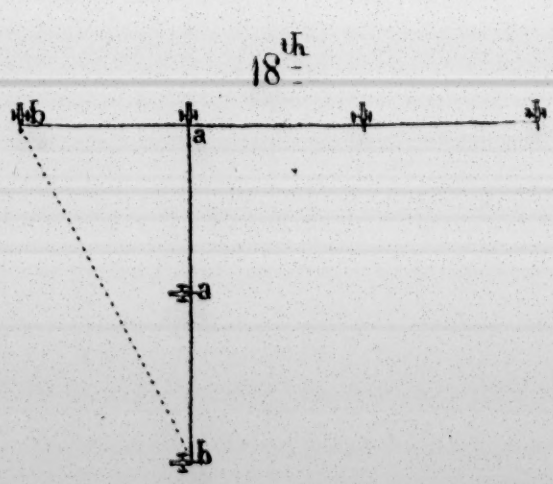
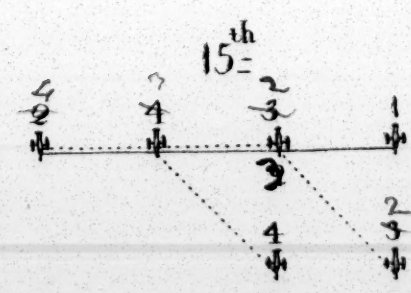
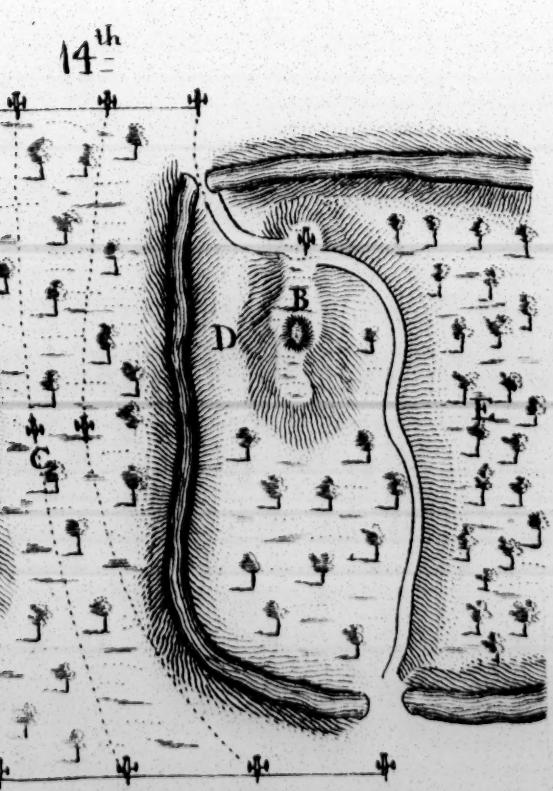
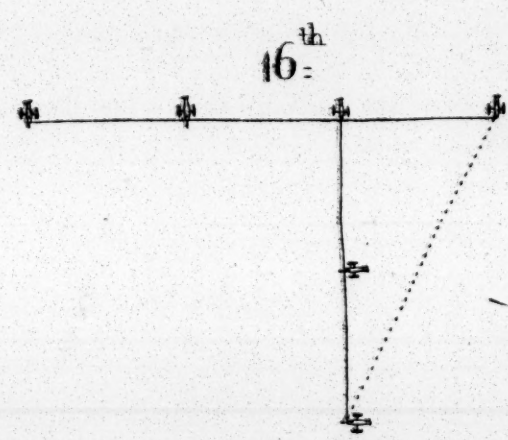
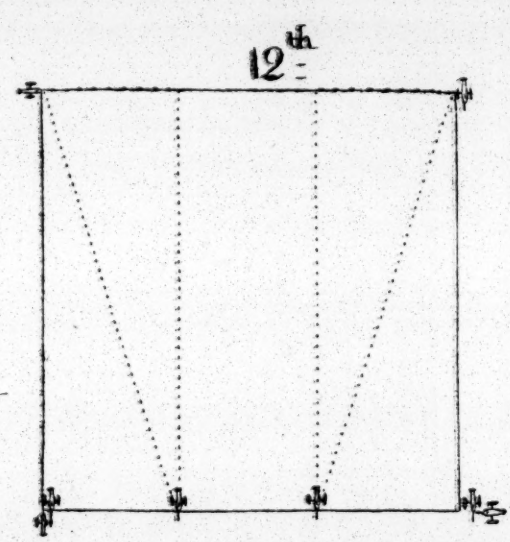
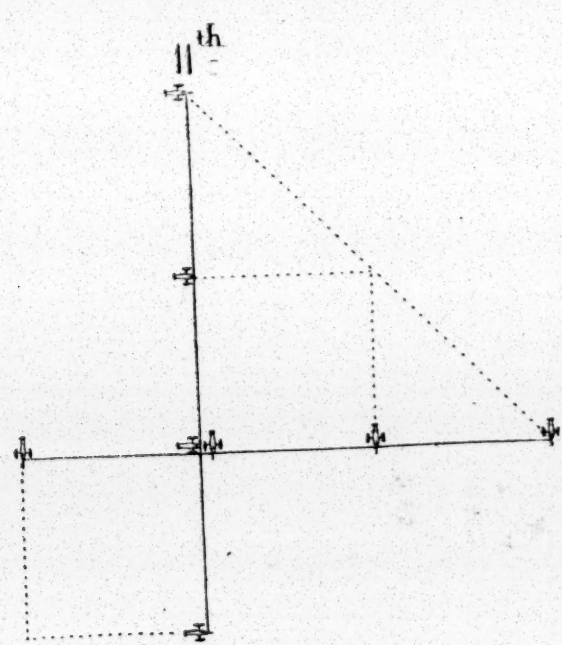
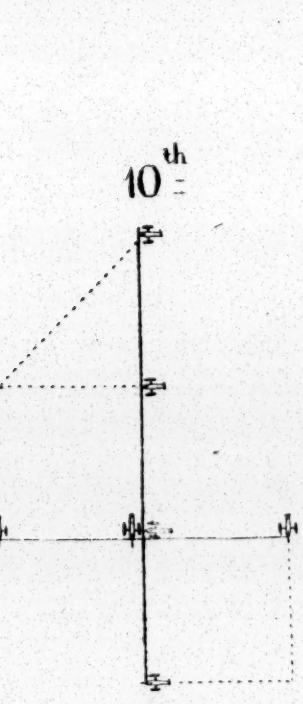
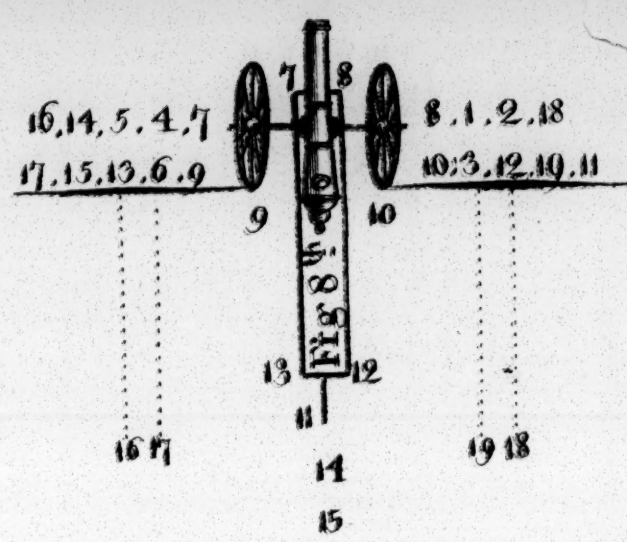
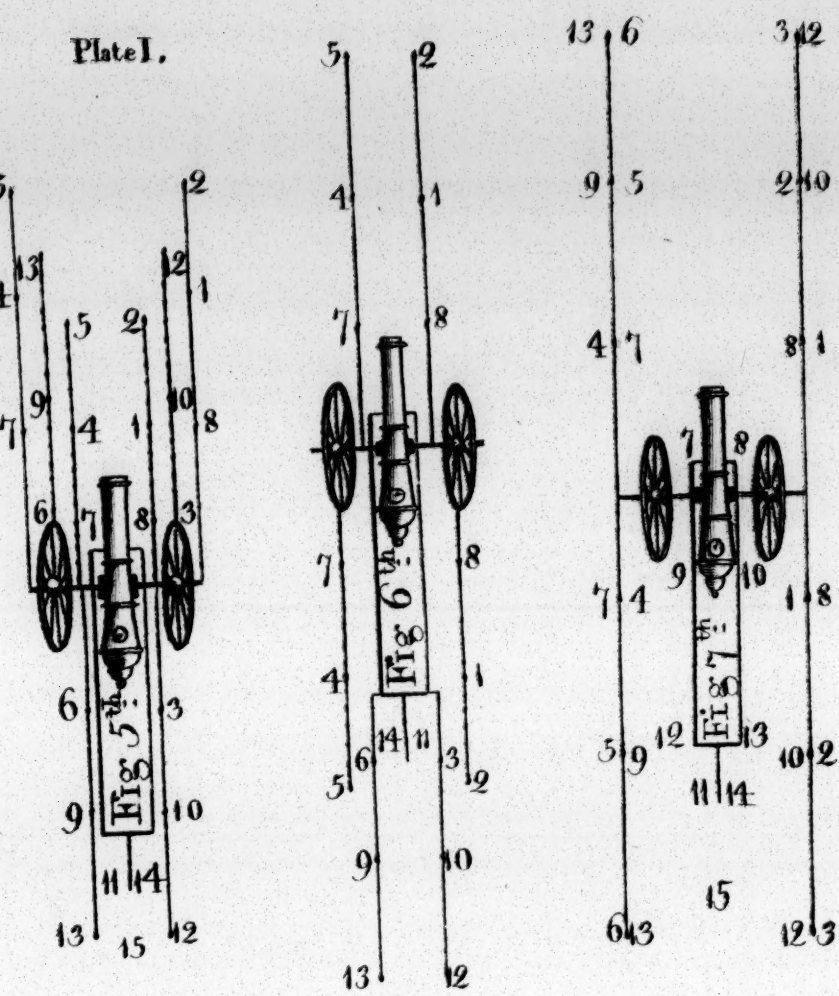




Fig 1<sup>st</sup>

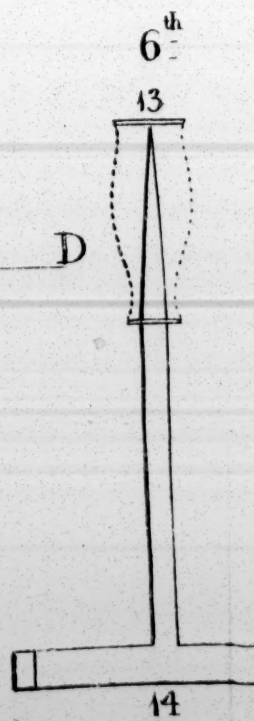
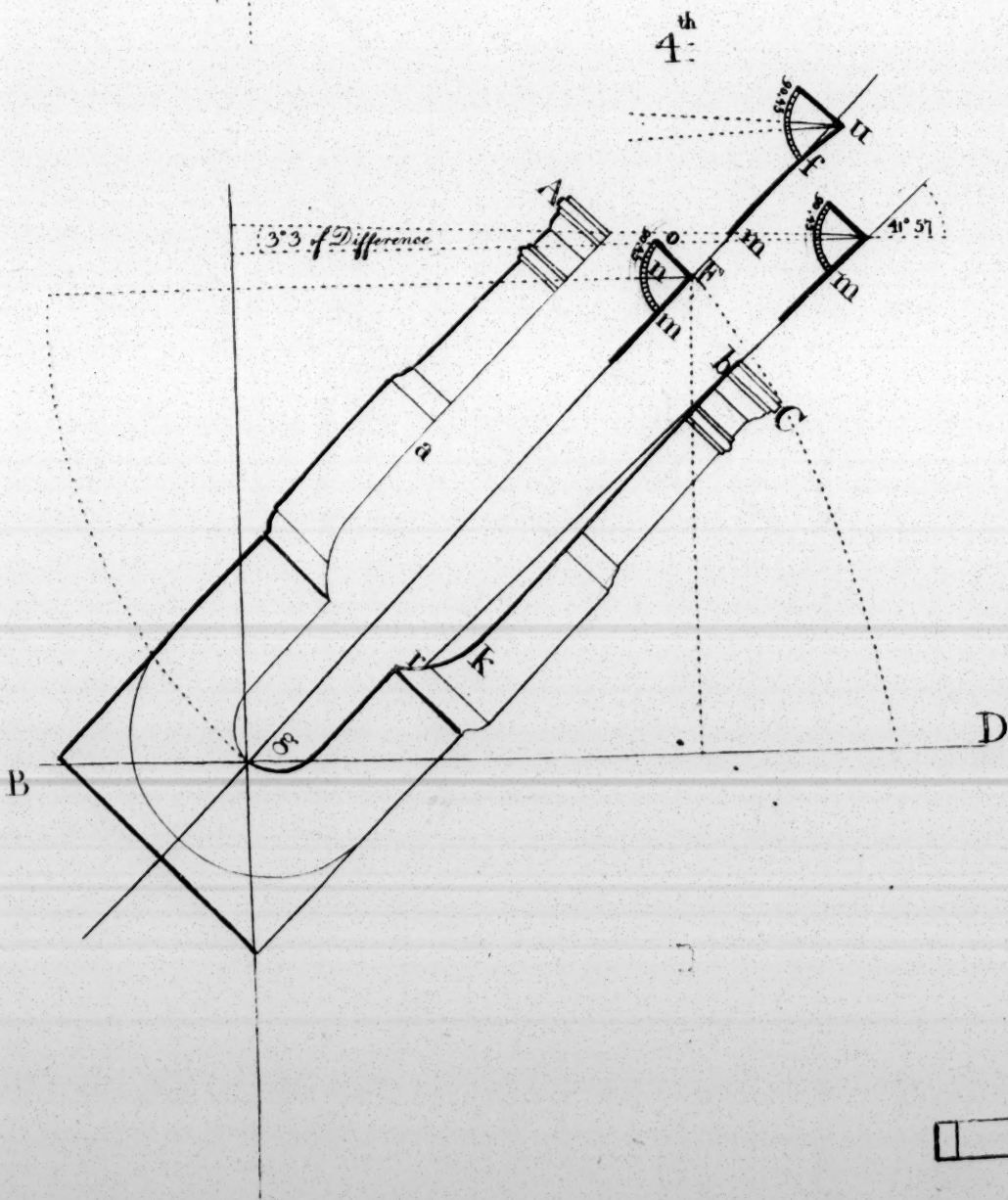
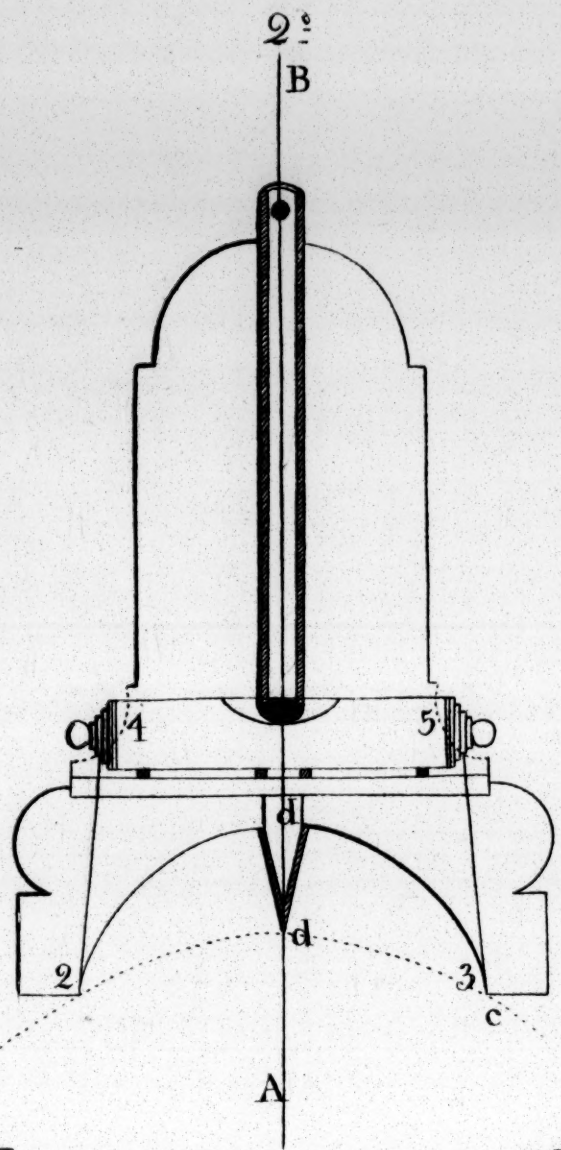
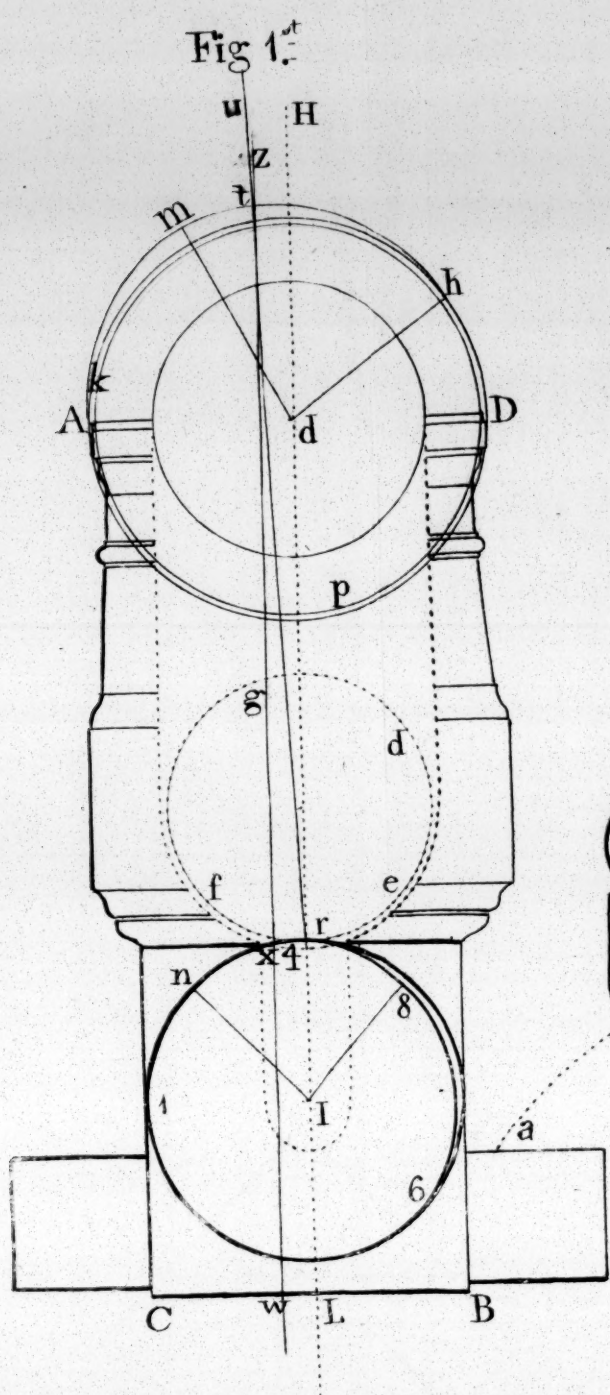
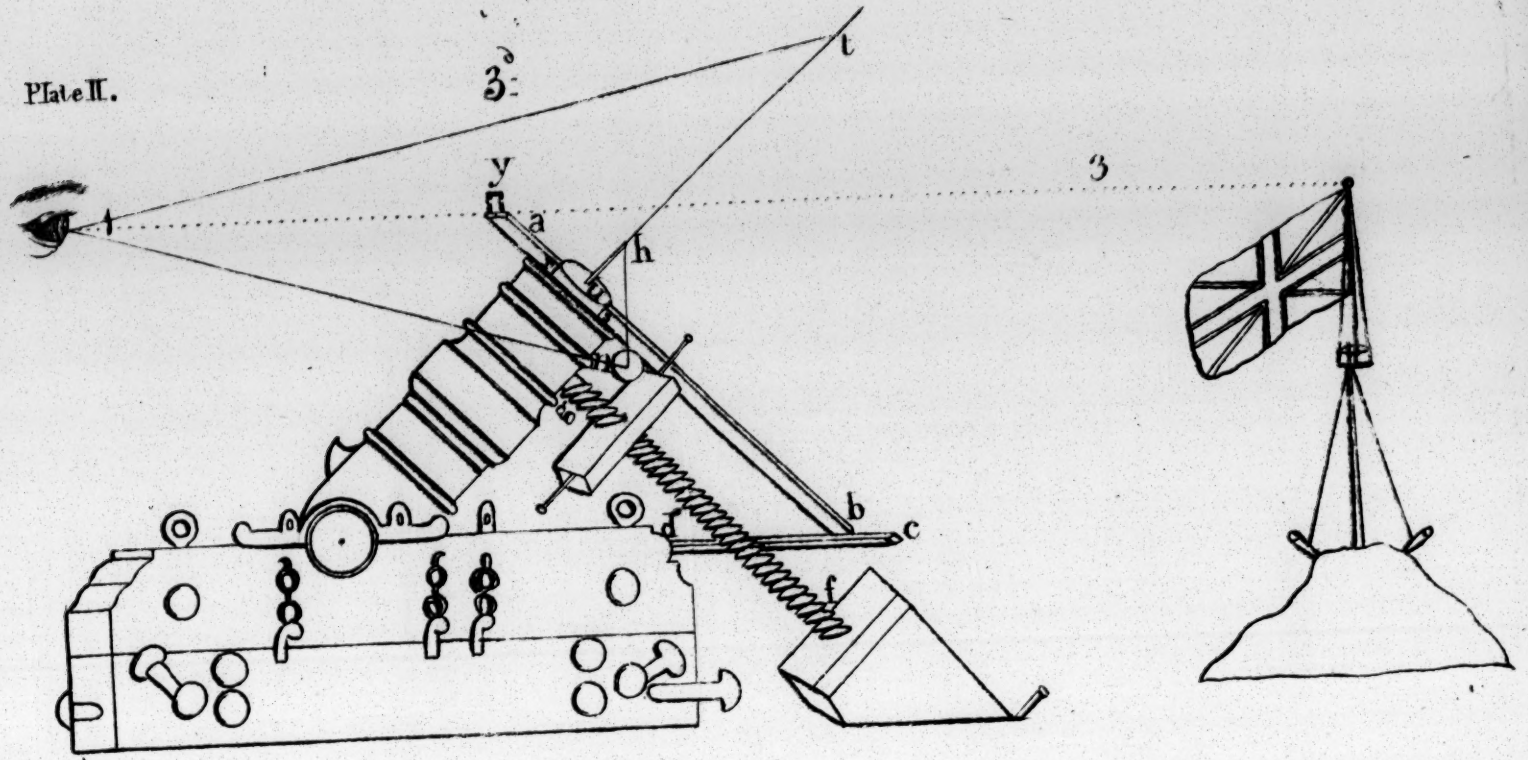
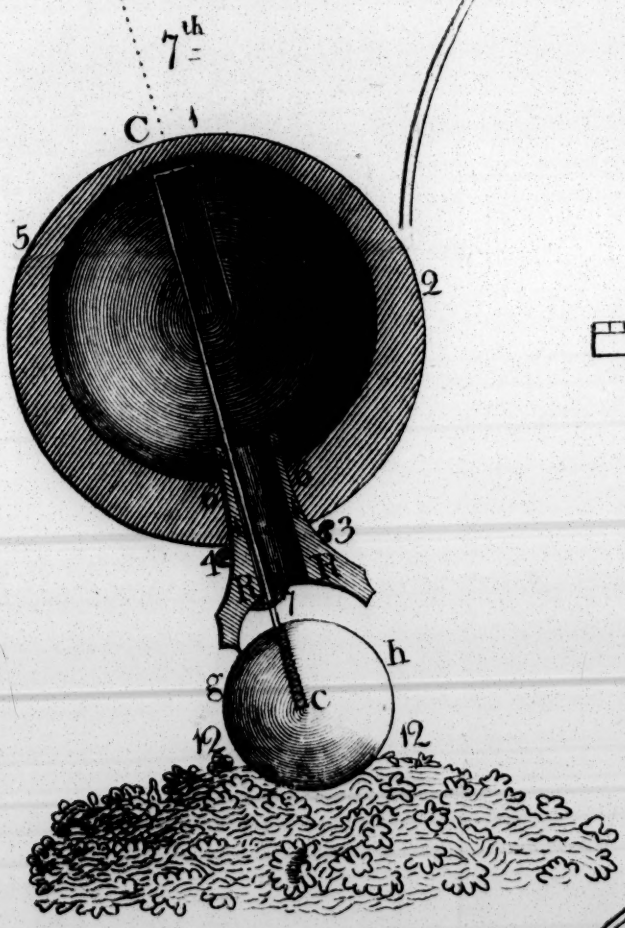
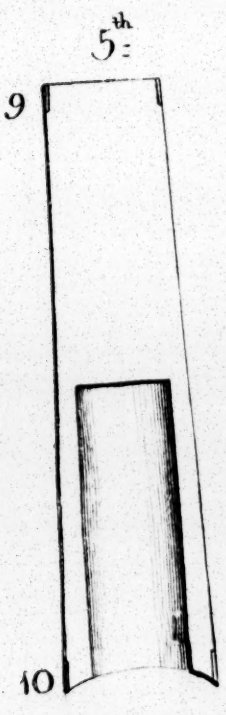




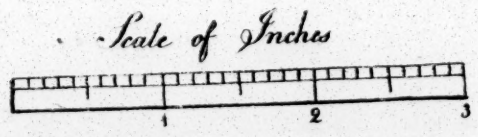
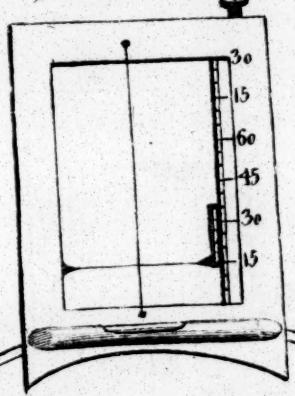
Plate II.



B



Front View



Back View

